Bengaluru Wednesday, December 17, 2025 Pages 16 Vol 78 No 347 ₹7

www.deccanherald.com Follow us on @deccanherald

DH

DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Goa nightclub fire: Luthras deported from Thailand

Brothers to be brought to Goa from Delhi today

Page 9

Siddaramaiah to Oppn: I'm the CM

Cong power tussle sparks debate in Assembly

Page 5

Opposition uproar in Parliament over G RAM G Bill

Wants Bill to be sent to standing committee for scrutiny

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The contentious 'VB: G RAM G Bill, 2025' that replaces MGNREGA was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday amid strong objections from the Opposition.

The Opposition was incensed over the government's decision to "remove" the name of Mahatma Gandhi from the rural job guarantee law, changing it from a demand-driven to a supply-driven scheme and "squeezing" states by putting 40% of expenditure on them.

Introducing the 'The Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan dismissed the charges, insisting that the Modi government has done more for rural development than any previous government. He also said the government has not weakened the scheme, as it has increased the work days from 100 to 125 days.

Gandhi resides in our hearts. The Congress has brought MGNREGA and spent Rs 2.13 lakh crore but under the Modi government, we have spent over Rs 8 lakh crore for the poor's welfare. The Congress has changed the name of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Does it mean insult to Nehru? Lord Ram is in our every breath. Why are they troubled by 'G RAM G'? Gandhi dreamt of Ram Rajya.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Rural Development Minister

"Mahatma Gandhi resides in our hearts. The Congress has brought MGNREGA and spent Rs 2.13 lakh crore but under the Modi government, we have spent over Rs 8 lakh crore for the poor's welfare. The Congress has changed the name of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Does it mean insult to Nehru? Lord Ram is in our every breath. Why are they troubled by 'G RAM G'? Mahatma Gandhi dreamt of Ram Rajya and through the poor's welfare, we are achieving that," he said.

▸ Bill, Page 8

Rights packaged, with conditions, Edit, Page 6

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, SP MP Akhilesh Yadav, DMK MP T R Baalu and others stage a protest in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

LS passes insurance Bill

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a Bill that seeks to raise the foreign direct investment cap in the insurance sector to 100% from the current 74% and improve ease of doing business. **Page 12**

Cong to hold protest

The Congress will hold a nationwide protest on Wednesday against the 'VB - G RAM G Bill', with Rahul Gandhi saying that the removal of Gandhi's name from the law is due to Modi's "dislike" for the Father of the Nation.

Details on Page 10

Uncapped Indian players hit pay dirt at IPL

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Young uncapped Indian players Prashant Veer and Kartik Sharma shocked the cricketing world after being picked up for Rs 14.2 crore each by Chennai Super Kings even as the Australian all-rounder Cameron Green emerged as the costliest buy of the day with Kolkata Knight Riders acquiring his services for a whopping Rs 25.20 crore at the IPL mini-auction in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka's slinging sensation Matheesha Pathirana too had a day to savour as KKR, who were armed with the biggest purse of Rs 64.30 crore, signed the 22-year-old for a whopping Rs 18 crore.

Jammu & Kashmir's pacer Auqib Nabi Dar finally realised his childhood dream of getting an IPL bid with Delhi Capital splurging Rs 8.4 crore on him.

*The next edition of IPL will be held in the window between March 26 and May 31.

TOP BUY 1 Cameron Green Rs 25.20 cr (KKR)

TOP BUY 2 Matheesha Pathirana Rs 18 cr (KKR)

TOP BUY 3 Kartik Sharma - Rs 14.2 cr (CSK)

TOP BUY 4 Prashant Veer Rs 14.2 cr (CSK)

TOP BUY 5 Mustafizur Rahman Rs 9.2 cr (KKR)

OTHER TOP UNCAPPED INDIANS

Aquib Dar Rs 8.40 cr (DC)
Mangesh Yadav Rs 5.20 cr (RCB)
Tejasvi Dahiya Rs 3 cr (KKR)

BARGAIN BUYS

Quinton de Kock Rs 1 cr (base price, MI)
David Miller Rs 2 cr (base price, DC)

"I'm so excited to be part of Kolkata for this year's IPL. To get down to the Eden Gardens, to get used to the atmosphere. I hope it is a great year for us. So see you soon. Ami KKR!" Cameron Green

TOP PICKS IN ACCELERATED AUCTION

Liam Livingstone Rs 13 cr (SRH)
Josh Inglis Rs 8.60 cr (LSG)
Rahul Chahar Rs 5.20 cr (CSK)
Ben Dwarshuis Rs 4.40 cr (PBKS)

MOST EXPENSIVE UNCAPPED INDIANS (OVERALL)

Prashant Veer Rs 14.2 cr (CSK)
Kartik Sharma Rs 14.2 cr (CSK)
Avesh Khan Rs 10 cr (LSG)
K Gowtham Rs 9.25 cr (CSK)
Shahrukh Khan Rs 9 cr (PBKS)

Page 14

National Herald case: Relief for Gandhis, ED plaint nixed

NEW DELHI, DHNS

A Delhi court on Tuesday declined to take cognisance of the Enforcement Directorate's money laundering charge against Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi, and five others in the National Herald case.

The ED said it would file an appeal against the court order.

Special Judge Vishal Gogne noted that the chargesheet filed in the case is based on an investigation into a complaint by a private person and not on an FIR of a predicate offence. Its cognisance is impermissible in law, the judge said.

The court noted that the Delhi police's Economic Offences Wing has already lodged an FIR, and it would be premature to examine the merits of the ED's arguments.

The ED, on October 3, filed an FIR against Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, and other accused in the National Herald case on a complaint by the ED.

With court proceedings not moving to the trial stage for now, officials said the agency will file a fresh chargesheet against Sonia and Rahul Gandhi apart from others as it has taken cognisance of the latest Delhi police FIR filed in the case on October 3.

The ED accused the Gandhis, as well as late party leaders Motilal Vora and Oscar Fernandes, along with Suman Dubey, Sam Pitroda, and a private company, Young Indian, of conspiracy and money laundering. It was alleged that they acquired properties worth approximately Rs 2,000 crore belonging to Associated Journals Ltd.

The judge, however, ruled that the accused may be informed that the FIR has been registered.

Man trying to grab vast tracts of forest land arrested

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Mudigere police on Tuesday arrested M B Nemannagouda alias M B Manmatha for allegedly trying to encroach upon 482 acres of forest and government land at BM Kaval in Kengeri using forged documents, Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar B Khandre said.

A senior police officer from Mudigere police station told *DH* that Manmatha (68), was arrested from his relative's house in Kadur and taken into police custody for interrogation. He was taken for medical examination before being produced before the magistrate to seek his custody.

On November 27, *DH* had reported about the forest department staring at a loss of reserved forest in B M Kaval worth about Rs 30,000 crore after Nemannagouda got a favourable court order.

"Manmatha is an agriculturist and owns some property in Mudigere where he lives with his wife and three sons. He was hiding in Kadur and based on a tip-off, the police apprehended him. We need to question him to ascertain how he got involved in the forest and government land-grabbing attempt," the officer said.

Khandre said Manmatha had earlier tried to stake claim over 512 acres and 26 guntas of forest and government land by using fabricated documents and obtaining a court order. Following this, the Assistant Conservator of Forests lodged a complaint at the Mudigere police station on November 28, while a complaint was also filed by the tahsildar Ashwini S of Mudigere on December 13.

DH's report on Nov 27.

Khandre warned that no one would be spared for attempting to encroach upon forest land using fake documents

Based on the complaints, the police registered an FIR and arrested Manmatha during investigation. The minister said the role of others involved in the alleged conspiracy would be revealed.

Khandre said some officials and government advocates were extending support to those attempting to grab forest and government land. He said he had written to the CM seeking a CID or SIT probe.

After he was produced before the magistrate, he was remanded to judicial custody. "We will seek his police custody," an officer said.

8-yr-old male tiger injured in snare, dies

MADIKERI, DHNS: The carcass of an eight-year-old male tiger was found in a coffee estate at Srimangala near Madikeri, after it reportedly succumbed to injuries sustained in a snare.

According to DCF Abhishek, the tiger had been caught in a snare about two days ago. It is believed to have escaped but was injured. It eventually became weak and died.

A tiger that was found dead near Madikeri

PILE-UPS AMID FOG, 25 KILLED IN UP

Charred remains of buses after a fog-hit pile-up involving several buses and cars triggered fires in Mathura on Tuesday. Multiple fog-related accidents claimed 25 lives in the state with 13 killed in the Mathura accident alone. PTI

EC publishes Bengal SIR draft rolls; over 58 lakh voters deleted

KOLKATA, DHNS: The Election Commission has struck off over 58 lakh voters in West Bengal after the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls of the state, bringing down the size of the electorate from 7.66 crore at the beginning of the year to 7.08 crore.

The EC published the draft electoral rolls of West Bengal on Tuesday after conducting the SIR from November 4 to December 11, provisionally deleting 58,20,898 voters. The officials of the commission, however, said that the voters could challenge the deletion of their names from the electoral rolls by filing Form 6 along with a declaration form and supporting documents till January 15.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's constituency Bhabanipur saw the deletion of 44,787 of 2,06,295 voters from electoral rolls.

Nandigram, the constituency of her bête noire and the BJP heavyweight Suvendu Adhikari, on the other hand, had only 10,599 of 2,78,212 voters removed from the list. Adhikari, now the Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly, had defeated Mamata in Nandigram in the 2021 Assembly elections by 1,956 votes, despite the TMC's landslide victory across the state. Mamata had later contested the bypoll in Bhabanipur and won by 58,832 votes.

▸ Bengal, Page 8

Over 1 cr voters deleted in 5 states, 2 UTs, Page 10

PROBING DEEPER

Bondi Beach shooters have roots in Hyderabad: Telangana police

HYDERABAD, DHNS

The father-son duo involved in the horrific Bondi Beach shooting in Australia's Sydney have their roots in Hyderabad, Telangana, according to Telangana police.

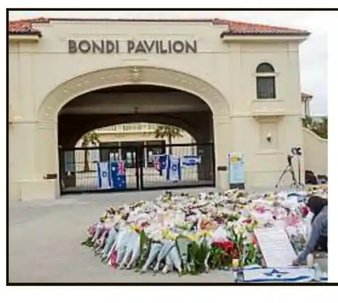
Father Sajid Akram's extended family hails from the city's Mehdipatnam area and he migrated to Australia nearly 27 years ago on a student visa, as per a note shared by the Telangana DGP office.

Sajid had visited Hyderabad seven times since settling abroad, police said. Though two of his brothers and other family members continue to live in the city, relatives reportedly told police that Sajid had largely severed contact with them.

A mass shooting at Bondi Beach on Sunday by Sajid and his son Naveed during a Hanukkah celebration resulted in the deaths of 15 people and one of the two attackers. Reports indicate that the father-son duo was inspired by the Islamic State ideology.

Originally from Hyderabad, Sajid completed his B.Com degree in the city and migrated to Australia in search of employment 27 years ago in 1998.

He subsequently married Venera Grosso, a woman of European origin, and settled in Australia. They have one son, Naveed, and a daughter, said a senior official of the Telangana police. Sajid carries an Indian passport and his son Naveed and daughter are Australian citizens.



Radicalised duo

- Sajid Akram completed his B.Com degree in Hyd and migrated to Australia in search of employment in 1998
- Subsequently he married Venera Grosso, a woman of European origin, and settled in Australia
- Sajid has one son, Naveed, and a daughter. Sajid has an Indian passport and his children are Australian citizens

As per information available from his relatives in India, Sajid had a limited contact with his family in Hyderabad. He visited India on six occasions after migrating to Australia, primarily for the purpose of property matters and and his elderly parents. It is understood that he did not travel to India even at the time of his father's demise.

When approached by Telangana police, family members expressed no knowledge of his radical mindset nor the circumstances that led to his radicalisation. The factors that led to the radicalisation of Sajid and his son appear to have no connection with India or any local influence in Telangana, said the official.

Telangana police has no adverse record against Sajid. "Telangana Police remains committed to cooperating with central agencies and other counterparts, as and when required, and urges the public and media to avoid speculation or attribution without verified facts," said a statement from Telangana police.

Digital arrest: Woman forced to sell plots

Bengaluru, DHNS: A Bengaluru woman was forced to sell two plots and an apartment and transfer Rs 2.05 crore to cybercriminals who impersonated law enforcement officials and accused her of involvement in illegal activities. The 57-year-old victim, was held under constant surveillance for six months, when a caller, claiming to be from a courier firm, said the police found drugs in her package in Mumbai.

Details on Page 3

Rupee hits new all-time low of 90.93

Mumbai, PTI: The rupee descended to a fresh record low, breaching the 91-a-dollar mark for the first time, before ending 15 paise weaker at 90.93 against the dollar on Tuesday, even as the government attributed the drop to the widening trade gap and developments related to the India-US trade deal. During the session, the rupee lost 36 paise from its previous close to hit its lowest-ever level of 91.14.

Details on Page 12

GBA to e-auction Vijayanagar Palike Bazaar stalls

BENGALURU, DHNS: GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao on Tuesday instructed officials to allot shops at Vijayanagar Palike Bazaar through e-auction.

After inspecting ongoing works, Rao said 79 shops will be available in the air-conditioned Palike Bazaar. He also instructed officials to strictly regulate unauthorised commercial activity around Palike Bazaar and directed that a revenue officer be appointed exclusively to monitor the premises.

Rao said the Srirampuram Maternity Hospital will be rebuilt with 'Brand Bengaluru' funds.

"Currently, the Srirampuram Maternity Hospital is a single-storey, old structure with 30 beds, handling at least four deliveries and 200–300 outpatients daily. Under the 'Brand Bengaluru' project, the old building will be demolished and replaced with a four-storey, 50-bed facility," he said.

The Mudalapalya Maternity Hospital will also be upgraded from 12 to 30 beds. Rao also inspected the Indira Canteen and kitchen near Deepanjali Nagar and instructed staff to maintain strict cleanliness.

Rao asked officials to expedite development of entry and exit points on the Outer Ring Road and repair the road from Ayyappa Underpass to Madiwala police station.

Adigas yatra®
Recognised by Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India
32 YEARS...
TOURS OF 2026
AT THE RATE OF 2025
* For a Limited Time Only
* Terms & Conditions Apply
Pure Vegetarian Food | Experienced Tour Manager | A/C Vehicle | A/C Rooms | Travel Insurance
Email: care@adigasyatra.com
Website: www.adigasyatra.com
+91 9449478944
01 Chardham Yatra
Haridwar, Hanuman Chetty, Yamunotri, Uttarakashi, Gangotri, Rudra Prayaga, Gupta Kashi, Kedarnath, Mana, Keshava Prayaga, Badrinath, Rishikesh
Dates: APR 19, 22, 25, 28. MAY 4, 7, 10, 13, 19, 22, 25, 28. JUN 4, 7, 10, 13, 19, 22, 25, 28. JUL 4, 7, 10, 13.
15 DAYS 7022259008
02 Shimla - Manali – Vaishnodevi
New Delhi, Kurukshetra, Chandigarh, Shimla, Kufri, Kullu, Manali, Atal Tunnel & Solang Valley (Optional), Baijnath, Kangra Vajreshwari, Chamunda, Jwalamukhi, Katra, Vaishnodevi, Wagha Border, Amritsar.
Dates: FEB 6, 20. MAR 6, 20. APR 3, 10, 17, 24. MAY 8, 22. JUN 5, 19.
14 DAYS 7022259008
03 Ayodhya - Kashi – Gaya
Naimisharanya, Ayodhya Prayagraj (Triveni Sangama), Chitrakoot, Bodhgaya, Gaya, Varanasi, (Kashi), Saranath.
Dates: JAN 30. FEB 13, 27. MAR 13, 27. APR 10, 24. MAY 8. JUNE 5, 19.
9 DAYS 9364088424
04 Nepal - Ayodhya – Kashi
Prayagraj (Triveni Sangama), Ayodhya, Sunauli Border, Manokamana, Kathmandu, Lumbini, Gorakhpur, Gaya, Bodhgaya, Varanasi (Kashi), Saranath.
Dates: FEB 14. MAR 14. APR 11. MAY 9. JUNE 13. JUL 11.
12 DAYS 9364104366
05 Kashi - Gaya - Ayodhya
Prayaga Raj (Triveni Sangama), Ayodhya, Gaya, Bodhgaya, Varanasi (Kashi), Saranath.
Dates: JAN 24. FEB 7, 21. MAR 7, 21. APR 5, 18. MAY 2, 16. JUNE 13, 27.
6 DAYS 9364104365
06 Golden Triangle Tour
Jaipur, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra, Mathura, Brindavan, New Delhi.
Dates: FEB 6, 20. MAR 6, 20. APR 10, 24. MAY 8, 22. JUNE 5, 19.
6 DAYS 9364104373
07 Shimla - Kullu - Manali
Delhi, Shimla, Kullu, Kufri, Manali, Solang Valley & Atal Tunnel (Opt), Manikarnika, Chandigarh.
Dates: JAN 21. FEB 11, 25. MAR 11, 25. APR 15, 29. MAY 13, 27. JUNE 10, 24.
9 DAYS 7022259007
08 Nepal - Pashupathinath – Mukthinath
Gorakhpur, Pokhara, Mukthinath, Jomsom, Manokamana, Kathmandu, Sunauli Border, Lumbini.
Dates: FEB 28. MAR 28. APR 25. MAY 23. JUN 20. JUL 25. AUG 22.
10 DAYS 7022259008
09 Amritsar - Dharmashala – Vaishnodevi
Kangra Vajreshwari, Chamunda, Jwalamukhi, Dharmshala, Dalhousie, Khajjiar, Katra, Vaishnodevi.
Dates: JAN 22, 30. FEB 14, 22. MAR 13, 21. APR 10, 18. MAY 15, 23. JUN 12, 20.
9 DAYS 7975001525
10 Kashmir Vaishnodevi Tour
Pahalgam, Sonamarg, Srinagar, Gulmarg, Katra, Vaishnodevi.
Dates: JAN 25. FEB 8, 15. MAR 1, 8, 16, 23. APR 5, 12, 20, 27. MAY 10, 17, 25. JUN 1, 14, 21.
8 DAYS 7022259007
11 Ayodhya – Kashi – Baidhyanath
Ayodhya, Prayagraj (Triveni Sangama), Varanasi (Kashi), Saranath, Gaya, Bodhgaya, Baidhyanath Jyothirlinga.
Dates: JAN 28, FEB 25. MAR 25. APR 22. MAY 20. JUNE 24. JUL 22.
8 DAYS 9364104373
12 Mussoorie - Corbett – Nainital
Mussoorie, Kempty Falls, Rishikesh, Haridwar, Jim Corbett national Park, Kausani, Baijnath, Bageshwar, Jageshwar, Kainchi Dham, Sat Tal, Bhimtal, Naukuchiatal, Nainital, New Delhi
Dates: FEB 6, 20. MAR 6, 20. APR 10. MAY 8, 22. JUN 5, 19.
12 DAYS 7022259008
13 South India Tour
Kancheepuram, Chidambaram, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Srirangam, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Nagercoil, Suchindram, Thiruvananthapuram, Kalady, Guruvayur, Nanjangudu
Dates: JAN 22. FEB 5, 19. MAR 5, 19. APR 2, 16, 30. MAY 7, 21. JUN 4, 18.
10 DAYS 7022259008
14 Kerala Special Tour
Guruvayur, Kalady, Alleppey, Thekkady, Munnar, Kochin, Wayanad.
Dates: JAN 29. FEB 12, 26. MAR 12, 26. APR 9, 16, 30. MAY 14, 28. JUN 11, 25.
7 DAYS 9364104373
15 Rameshwaram - Kanyakumari – Madurai
Rameshwaram, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Srirangam, Thanjavur.
Dates: JAN 22. FEB 5, 19. MAR 5, 19. APR 2, 16, 30. MAY 7, 21. JUN 4, 18.
5 DAYS 7022259007
16 Navagraha Darshan
Thingalur, Thirunageshwaram, Kanjanur, Keezhaperumpallam, Suryanar Koil, Alangudi, Thirunallar, Thiruvenkadu, Vaitheeswaran Koil, Kumbakonam.
Dates: JAN 29. FEB 12, 26. MAR 12, 26. APR 9, 16, 30. MAY 14, 28. JUN 11, 18, 25.
4 DAYS 7975001525

Namma Metro revenue crosses Rs 1,000 cr, but losses widen

Record ridership, fare hike fail to curb net loss

BENGALURU, DHNS

For the first time, Namma Metro's annual revenue exceeded Rs 1,000 crore in 2024-25, driven by ridership recovery, network expansion, and a fare hike implemented in early 2025.

While ticket sales were the main contributor to revenue, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL) saw only a marginal Rs 5-crore increase in non-fare revenue compared to the previous year.

In 2024-25, the BMRCL carried an average of 7.58 lakh passengers per day. Despite growing ridership and an operational profit of Rs 229 crore, net losses widened to Rs 623.93 crore, up from Rs 350.7 crore, after accounting for depreciation and tax.

The 2024-25 annual report on the BMRCL website announced that the Reach 6 (Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara) metro corridor will open in two stages. "The project is in an advanced stage of completion with tunnelling works completed. The stretch will be commissioned in two stages during 2026-27," the report said.

The BMRCL has borrowed a total of Rs 17,071 crore for various projects, in addition to state and central government grants.

In 2024-25, Namma Metro commissioned the extension of the Nagasandra line to Madavara, covering 3.15 km. In February, fares increased by 71% despite strong opposition from commuters and elected representatives.

In 2024-25, the BMRCL carried an average of 7.58 lakh passengers per day. DH FILE PHOTO

The annual report highlights growing demand for QR-based tickets.

In 2024-25, 20.34 to 23.23% of all passengers used QR code tickets, while about half continued with smart cards.

The report also noted that the Phase 2-A and 2-B project, connecting Central Silk Board Junction and Kempegowda International Airport (58 km and 30 stations), will open in stages in the coming years, though no exact timeline is given.

Orange Line

The report added that preliminary work such as land acquisition, utility shifting, and soil investigation is underway for the Orange Line (Phase III), whose foundation stone was laid in August.

The project is already delayed, with tenders yet to be floated for work approved in November last year.

GBA to survey Bellandur Lake buffer zone for proposed road

Once completed, it is expected to ease congestion in the area

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will conduct a detailed survey to assess building a road in the buffer zone of Bellandur Lake to ease traffic congestion.

GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao has directed officials to submit a report soon.

On Tuesday, Rao and senior officials from the Bengaluru East and South corporations inspected ongoing projects in various areas.

Maheshwar Rao

"To mitigate congestion along the Bellandur Lake bund road, a stretch of about 1 km long and 24 metres wide is being developed. Once completed, it is expected to substantially reduce congestion in the area," he said, adding that similar solutions are planned for buffer zones in other areas.

He said the GBA would build a 1.4-km buffer road as an alternative to Wind Tunnel Road by acquiring HAL land. "Tenders have been invited, and a proposal is being submitted for government approval. Officials have been instructed to commence work at the earliest," he said.

Rao also inspected construction of the 2.6-km buffer road from the Ejipura Inner Ring Road to Sarjapur Outer Ring Road. "As defence land is adjacent to the buffer road, an RCC retaining wall has been built along that stretch," he said.

The Ejipura–Sarjapur buffer road is 24 metres wide and is being built at an estimated cost of Rs 44 crore. "Upon completion, it will enable direct connectivity between Ejipura and Sarjapur Road, significantly reducing congestion in this corridor," he said.

East City Corporation Commissioner Ramesh DS, Additional Commissioner Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar, B-SMILE Technical Director BS Prahalad, and Chief Engineer M Lokesh were present during the inspection.

Biodiversity tag to railway land withdrawn due to legal restrictions

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The state government has withdrawn the notification declaring 8.61 acres at Bengaluru Cantonment Railway Colony a biodiversity heritage site, citing legal restrictions under the Railways Act, said Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar B Khandre on Tuesday.

Eshwar Khandre

He addressed environmentalists' concerns, saying the decision was not due to external pressure, and added that railway land cannot be regulated by other authorities under the existing law.

Khandre said the area had been declared a biodiversity site to conserve 371 trees over 8.61 acres, crucial as a green lung for Bengaluru. However, as the Railways Act restricts such notifications, the government was compelled to withdraw it.

The response follows citizen protests after the government withdrew the biodiversity tag, allowing the Railways to resume work on the site under a public private partnership (PPP) model.

Forest officials have discussed with the Railway Land Development Authority (RLDA), which has assured commitment to environmental protection. The authority has promised to relocate affected trees where possible and undertake compensatory plantation.

The RLDA has also given a written assurance that it will enforce environmental laws under Section 37(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, maintain green cover by planting saplings after construction, and take steps to protect biodiversity in the Cantonment Railway Colony area, the minister said.

Robotic tech helps BWSSB avoid road digging at 38 areas

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board's (BWSSB) use of robotic technology to detect leaks and inspect pipelines has yielded positive results.

A BWSSB statement said the technology has helped avoid excavation at 38 locations, saving lakhs of rupees and preventing inconvenience to the public. The technology has been in use since November 12.

Officials said the BWSSB has recorded significant operational and public benefits from deploying robotic inspection technology for sewer and underground utility management.

"Robotic inspection technology has helped us avoid unnecessary excavation at 38 locations. This has saved public money, reduced road damage, and, most importantly, spared citizens from repeated digging and traffic disruption. Technology is allowing us to serve Bengaluru more efficiently and responsibly," said BWSSB Chairman Ramprasat Manohar V.

BWSSB deploys robots to find water leaks. DH PHOTO

Through robotic inspections, BWSSB teams identified more than 93 issues, including blockages, structural defects, and internal damage that would otherwise have required extensive excavation.

"After inauguration, more issues were reported as field engineers detected underground problems more clearly using robotic systems. Since operations began, 75 service requests were received; 67 sites have been attended to, and only 11 requests are pending," the BWSSB statement said.

The technology has also improved worker safety by reducing the need for manual entry into confined underground spaces.

Manohar added that the BWSSB plans to expand robotic inspection to more zones to improve response time, cut costs, and minimise public inconvenience.

Activists slam GBA plan to relocate stray dogs

BENGALURU, DHNS

Activists gathered at Freedom Park on Tuesday to protest the Greater Bengaluru Authority's decision to relocate stray dogs to animal shelters.

Protesters called the move inhumane and said the authorities lacked the infrastructure to care for the dogs.

Arun Kumar, an activist, said, "The GBA is shifting the dogs to Animal Birth Control (ABC) centres, not shelters. Usually, in these centres, dogs are kept for five days for procedures and monitored during recovery. In case of dog bites, they are kept for 10 days. The GBA is now planning for detention in ABC centres, which is unacceptable."

LET'S SPEAK UP FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT.
ON SLEEP MODE FOR AWOKEN REPRESENTING FOR SOUNDLESS SPACE ON EARTH
I CAN'T SPEAK FOR MYSELF. YOU ARE MY VOICE.
INDIA UNITES FOR ANIMALS

People from diverse backgrounds gathered at Freedom Park on Tuesday to protest the relocation of stray dogs from institutions and hospitals to GBA's facilities. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

A senior GBA official said that it is a temporary measure, and permanent facilities will be created.

Activists said the Animal Welfare Board recommends a pair of dogs in 400 sqft, while authorities are placing 10 dogs in 200 sqft.

Agasthya Chandrakanth, a city resident, said, "Removing the dogs from institutions or other places will not solve the problem.

"The dogs are being shifted to concentration camps by the GBA, and these animals are becoming victims of the politics of the authority and government."

Addressing concerns about dog conflicts with children, Lakshmi, a dog lover, said, "People with children should be careful when they know dogs are around. Why should people have children if they are going to let them outside and not pay attention to them?"

Taxi drivers stage protest against new airport pickup rules

400 of them try to block toll gate; cops resort to lathicharge

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Hundreds of taxi drivers protested on Tuesday morning near the Sadahalli toll against new pickup restrictions at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

Around 400 drivers from unions such as Karnataka Chalakara Okkuta, Peace Auto Union and Bruhat Bengaluru Auto and Taxi Drivers Union attempted to block the toll gate at 9 am, demanding that airport authorities revoke the new pickup rules.

The protest turned tense as some individuals became aggressive, prompting police to carry out lathicharge. The protest caused brief traffic congestion near the toll plaza.

Under the new rules, private vehicles get eight minutes of free stay at both terminals. Stay between 8–13 minutes is charged Rs 150, and 13–18 minutes Rs 300. Vehicles overstaying 18 minutes will be towed and fined.

Commercial vehicles must wait at designated parking zones, with 10 minutes of complimentary parking.

After this, cab drivers pay Rs 100 for 30 minutes and Rs 50 for each additional hour.

G Narayanaswamy, president of Karnataka Chalakara Okkuta, said, "These rules were introduced without consulting us; 10 minutes is not enough, and the airport authorities know this. They must increase the wait time or withdraw the rules."

Narayanaswamy, who called for the protest, said, "We spoke with the Joint Commissioner of Police (East) and the Deputy Commissioner, who assured us the issue would be resolved in two days. However, we have given them four days. If this is not settled, next we will protest at Terminal 1."

Taxi drivers of various unions protested near the airport toll on Tuesday. PHOTO: KARNATAKA CHALAKARA OKKUTA

'Unfair to drivers, passengers'

Ramalinga Reddy

The drivers' union has the support of Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, who has written to BIAL to either reduce or revoke the fees.

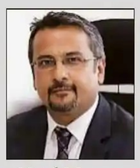
Reddy told *DH* he is yet to receive a response from BIAL.

"The letter was sent to the authorities on December 3.

"The new rules are unfair to both drivers and passengers. If needed, I will consult other ministers to protect drivers' livelihoods and passenger comfort," he said.

'Right move'

BIAL MD and CEO Hari Marar said he would personally oversee the implementation of the new rules.


Hari Marar

"We are monitoring the situation, and I am confident the system will stabilise over the next month. Importantly, this change improves passenger safety. For years, we received serious complaints, including from single women, about harassment and extortion by unauthorised taxi operators — risks far greater than a short walk of 500–700 metres," he said, adding a return to the earlier system would be a step backwards.

"This is the right move, and we are committed to refining it further."

Hotelier kills wife for refusing to quit job, later dies by suicide

Suspected his wife's fidelity; daughter safe

BENGALURU, DHNS

A 35-year-old man allegedly killed his wife and died by suicide at Hagalahalli village, Ramanagara Rural, Bengaluru South district, after repeated disputes over her decision to continue working.

The deceased are Naveen Kumar (35) and his wife Vatsala (30). The couple has a seven-year-old daughter.

A senior officer of Ramanagara Rural Police said that Kumar ran a non-vegetarian hotel near his house, while Vatsala worked at a sofa manufacturing unit in Bidadi Industrial Area. He had reportedly asked her to resign and stay at home, but she refused, leading to repeated disputes.

The officer added that Kumar suspected his wife's fidelity, deepening the discord.

Upset with his behaviour, two months ago, Vatsala reportedly removed her mangalsutra and left for her parents' house with their child. As Kumar continued to pressure her to return, Vatsala approached the Women's Police Station in Ramanagara and initiated legal action. Police later summoned and counselled the couple.

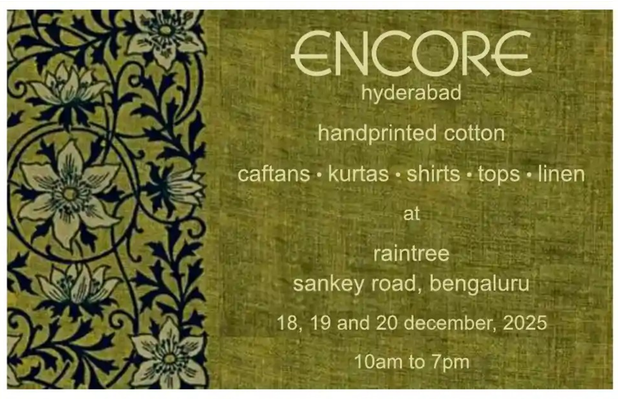
On Monday, Kumar went to his in-laws' house and brought Vatsala back. After reaching home, he allegedly strangled her and died by suicide by hanging. Their daughter was at her grandparents' house at the time.

Naveen Kumar & Vatsala

During the investigation, police found that Kumar had called his cousin Sanjay, a Bengaluru resident, minutes before the act and allegedly informed him of his intentions. The cousin did not take the call seriously, as Kumar had made similar calls in the past.

When Kumar failed to respond to subsequent calls, the cousin alerted police, who found the bodies and shifted them to a government hospital for post-mortem examination.

Police said multiple bite marks were found on Vatsala's body. A case of murder and suicide has been registered. Investigation is underway.



UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL
PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH
ADMISSION NOTICE (2026-2027)

Applications are invited for Admission to Two Year Full Time Management Programmes MBA, MBA (IB), MBA (HR), MBA (EP) and MBA (Business Data Analytics) for Academic Session 2026-27

Candidates are required to visit the website https://ubsadmissions.puchd.ac.in for detailed instructions. The said website would remain open for online registration through online payment from 26.11.2025 to 28.01.2026. Hard copy of the application form along with necessary documents should reach the undersigned latest by 04:00 p.m. on 10.02.2026. Application received after due date shall not be entertained

Note: Our Institution uses the CAT scores for short-listing/selecting the candidates for our Post-graduate Programme(s) in Management/ MBA. IIMs have no role either in the selection process or in the conduct of the programme.

Professor Parmjit Kaur, Chairperson

Cyber fraud: Lecturer sells property, loses Rs 2.05 crore

Was forced to sell two plots and an apartment

BENGALURU, DHNS

In an extreme case of a digital arrest scam, a Bengaluru woman was forced to sell two plots and an apartment, and transfer Rs 2.05 crore to cybercriminals who impersonated law enforcement officials and accused her of involvement in illegal activities.

The 57-year-old victim from Vignana Nagar, East Bengaluru, was kept under constant surveillance for six months, from June 2025, before realising she had been cheated. She told the police she is a lecturer and has been living at her current address with her son for the last 10 years.

The FIR stated that she received a call from an unknown number on June 19. The caller claimed to be from the Blue Dart courier service, and told her that a package linked to her Aadhaar card in Mumbai contained drugs, and that she would be picked up shortly by the Mumbai police.

She was next connected to people impersonating the Mumbai police, who told her she could only go out after verification. They made her install video calling apps to keep her under surveillance.

"In the first week, they were continuously monitoring me on WhatsApp and Teams. Initially, they spoke in English. But they are not good at English. Later, they came to know that I knew Hindi, so they started to talk in Hindi as well. In the video call, they appeared in police uniform in the ranks of inspector and DCP," the woman was quoted as saying in the FIR.

She further claimed that the impersonators began demanding money, failing which her son's life would be in danger. "Hence, for money, I sold two plots in Malur, Kolar, at a very low price. I also sold one apartment in Vignana Nagar. I took a bank loan and paid all the money to them," the woman told the police.

On November 27, the cybercriminals told her to visit the police station for a No Objection Certificate (NOC) and that her money would be returned. It was then that the woman realised she had fallen prey to a digital arrest scam, the FIR noted.

The Whitefield Cybercrime Police have registered an FIR and launched an investigation.

Complaint against Bihar CM for grabbing woman's hijab

BENGALURU, DHNS: A Bengaluru-based advocate on Tuesday filed a complaint seeking registration of a Zero FIR with Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) MA Saleem against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar after he was seen grabbing a woman's hijab.

Nitish Kumar

Advocate Owaiz Hussain S also marked the complaint to the Bengaluru police commissioner and chairperson of the Karnataka State Commission for Women, among others.

Hussain said the complaint against Kumar was for "sexual assault, non-consensual physical intrusion, outraging the modesty of a woman, public humiliation, and violation of religious dignity". The complaint was acknowledged.

A video of the incident went viral on Monday in Bihar, showing Kumar gesturing to a woman doctor to remove her hijab while handing her a certificate. Before the woman reacted, Kumar was seen grabbing and pulling down the hijab.

Water supply disruptions

BENGALURU, DHNS: Water supply will be disrupted in several parts of the city on Wednesday as the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) undertakes emergency repair works.

According to BWSSB officials, a leakage was detected in one of the Cauvery Stage V transmission pipelines, necessitating immediate repairs.

Areas affected: Ananthpura, Doddabettahalli, Chikkabettahalli, Harohalli, Govindapura, Dasarahalli, Thanisandra, Kothanur, Geddalahalli, Byrathi, and surrounding areas; Gunjur, Kadubeesanahalli, Panathur, Kadugodi, Hemmigepura, Somapura, Lingadheeranahalli, Subramanyapura, Hosahalli, and surrounding areas; Turahalli, Gubbalala, Thippasandra, Vajarahalli, Shettihalli, Andrahalli, Koodlu, Abbigere, Chikkasandra, Gottigere.

NYE: Firecrackers banned, pub owners assure compliance

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bursting firecrackers during New Year celebrations has been completely banned, the police announced while issuing comprehensive guidelines for events on December 31.

The move is part of measures to maintain law and order and ensure safety at hotels, pubs, clubs, bars, restaurants, and other venues, following the recent Goa pub tragedy. Pub owners have also given undertakings to comply with the rules.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said, "Bursting crackers in overcrowded areas poses a serious threat. Fire safety is our priority. Firecrackers will only be permitted in open areas. Organisers must obtain all mandatory permissions, follow stipulated timings, and ensure sound levels comply with Noise Pollution Rules, 2000."

Organisers have been instructed to adhere strictly to venue capacities and avoid basements, parking areas, or terraces. LED screens and loudspeakers must be restricted to indoor use. Security arrangements, including visitor frisking, CCTV installation, and fire safety measures, are mandatory. CCTV footage must be preserved for 30 days, and road-facing cameras should link to the police control centre wherever possible.

Details of performers, celebrities, and security staff must be submitted in advance, and bouncers can be hired only through registered agencies.

Ananth Narayan, Bengaluru Chapter Head of the National Restaurant Association of India, said, "We welcome measures that strengthen responsible operations and guest awareness. The larger focus should be on enforcement and public awareness."

Shri Siddaramaiah
Honb'le Chief Minister
KARNATAKA STATE MINORITIES COMMISSION
KMDC Bhavan, Opp. Sheshadripuram Police Station, S.C. Road, Bengaluru - 560020.
Shri D K Shivakumar
Honb'le Deputy Chief Minister
"Civilization of a society is judged by how it treats its Minorities"
Mahatma Gandhi
INVITATION
MINORITIES RIGHTS DAY 2025
on 18th of December 2025, Thursday at 11.00 am
Venue: D. Devraj Urs Bhavan Auditorium, Millers Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru - 560001
Key note Address by:
Justice B. S. Patil
Hon'ble Lokayuktha, Karnataka Lokayuktha
In the distinguished presence of :
Sri U. T. Khader
Hon'ble Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly
Inauguration by:
Sri B. Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan,
Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Minority Welfare & Waqf
Guest of Honour:
Smt· Banu Mushtaq
Kannada writer, International Booker Prize - 2025 Awardee
Presided over by:
Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Shivajinagar Constituency
Achievers To Be Felicitated:
Sri L. K. Atheeq, IAS (Rtd.),
Chairman, Bengaluru Business Corridor, Peripheral Ring Road Authority, Govt. of Karnataka
Smt. Ayesha Banu,
Suraksha Sevashrama, Karkala
Sangeeth Vidwan Pandith Hussainsab Nadaf,
Awardee Kalashree 2017 from Karnataka Sangeetha Nrithya Academy
Ms. Huda Masroor,
Youngest Pilot of Karnataka
Sri Jude Felix Sebastian,
Former Captain, Indian National Hockey Team Olympic 1992
Miss Padmashree. N,
Founder & CEO of Design Bay
Sri Sardar Manmeet Singh Granthi,
Founder, Karam Foundation, Bidar
Sri Khen Rinpoche Geshe Nawang Sangay,
Abbott, Gyudmed Tantrik University,Mysuru
Sri Shereyar D Vakil,
Advocate, Vice President, Parsee Anjuman, Bengaluru
All are cordially invited
Dr. Shamla Iqbal, IAS,
Secretary To Government, Minority Welfare, Haj & Waqf Dept.
Sri U. Nisar Ahmed, IPS (Rtd.)
Chairman,
Karnataka State Minorities Commission
Dr. Maazuddin Khan,
Secretary,
Karnataka State Minorities Commission

20-30% hike in pollution-linked ailments: Docs

Upper respiratory infections, eye infections and dry skin are bothering many Bengalureans

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE

City doctors have seen a rise in pollution-related ailments over the past two to three weeks. This is due to Bengaluru's air quality, which has fluctuated between satisfactory and moderate (see box) over the last two weeks, they say.

Cases of respiratory infections, asthma flare-ups, eye irritation and dry skin are significantly higher this season, as are the severity of the symptoms. This spike has affected the "vulnerable category" the most — children, older adults and those with pre-existing conditions.

The city's air pollution has led to a spike in several ailments among children, older adults and those with pre-existing conditions. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Breathlessness, cough

Dr Chandil Gunashekar, a general physician in Whitefield, has observed a 20-25% increase in upper respiratory tract infections (URI) compared to last December. "Cough, asthma symptoms and respiratory infections are the most common complaints," he says.

Pulmonologists observed a similar rise. Dr Sachin Kumar, director of pulmonology and critical care medicine at a private hospital, says outpatient footfall for respiratory complaints has increased by 20% in the last two weeks. "Both infectious and non-infectious respiratory symptoms are higher this year," he adds.

Patients are coming in with issues of breathlessness, cough, throat irritation, wheezing and sneezing, either as symptoms of an allergy or a viral infection.

Among allergy-related respiratory complaints, Dr Shalini Joshi, internal medicine specialist at a private hospital, estimates a 30% increase. "Consistently poor air quality worsens people's tolerance to pollen. Pollutants make the airway more reactive and sensitive, worsening existing pollen allergies," she adds.

Eye-related complaints are another concern. Dr Naren Shetty, opthalmologist and director at a private hospital, says eye irritation, dryness and redness have increased by around 30% this year. "Allergic conjunctivitis cases are up by nearly 60% compared to December 2024," he adds. He attributes the rise to exposure to fine particulate matter such as particulate matter (PM) 2.5, which affects the surface of the eye and the meibomian glands responsible for keeping the eyes moist.

Ailments lasting longer

Some doctors have observed that illnesses are lingering longer this year. Dr Gunashekar says infections that earlier resolved within a week are now lasting up to two weeks. "The intensity of symptoms are also higher," he adds.

Dr Kumar agrees, noting that viral illnesses that earlier resolved in two to three days are now lasting up to 10 days. "Also, patients with diabetes, kidney or heart disease, and people without prior respiratory illness are developing pneumonia. In some cases, they require oxygen support or ICU care," he says.

DOCS' ADVICE

On high-pollution days, early morning walks must be avoided as fog traps pollutants close to the ground, says Dr Gunashekar. Warm, nutrient-rich food and adequate hydration help boost immunity, he adds.

For essential outdoor travel, a well-fitted N95 mask is advised, particularly for two-wheeler riders and those with asthma or allergies.

Outdoor workouts should be avoided on high-AQI days, says Dr Shalini. To improve indoor air quality, she advises using air purifiers or High Efficiency Particulate Air filters and keeping windows shut on high-pollution days. "Changing clothes, and washing hands and face immediately after reaching home, will help."

Pollution data

According to data from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), the city's Air Quality Index (AQI) across its 11 monitoring stations ranged between satisfactory and moderate on December 5 and 6, from December 8 to 12, and on December 15 and 16. PM10 and PM2.5 were the dominant pollutants during this period. AQI is categorised as 0-50 (good), 51-100 (satisfactory), 101-200 (moderate), 201-300 (poor), 301-400 (very poor), and above 401 (severe), a KSPCB official explained.

Duo brought empathy to architecture

Shankar Kanade passed away earlier this month, one year after his brother Navnath. A tribute to the visionaries

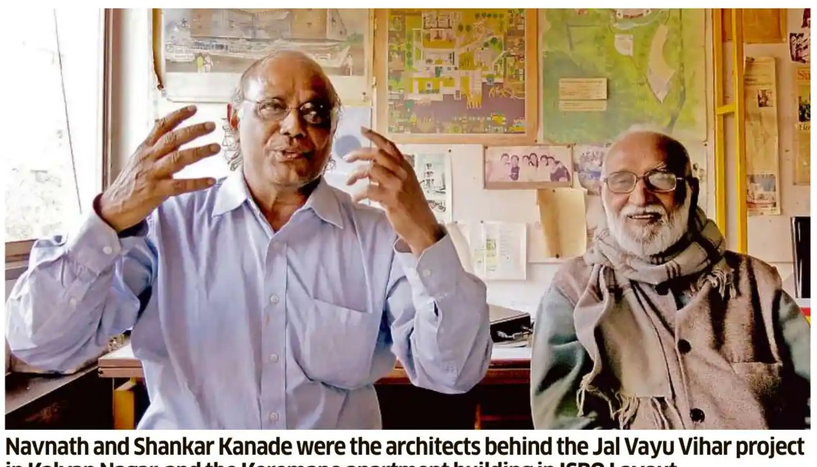
BIJOY RAMACHANDRAN

Sometime in the summer of 1992, a motley group of architects organised a workshop in Bengaluru. A house was to be designed on a linear site with roads on the two ends almost a floor apart in section. I remember distinctly the sensation of becoming aware of the power of the split-level and the value of carefully responding to location.

This was also the first time I got the chance to engage closely with the Base Group — Nikhil Arni, Sharad Padalkar, Edgar Demello, Sanjay Mohe, Prem Chandavarkar and, of course, the Kanade brothers, Shankar and Navnath.

As participants, the real learning was the importance of taking positions and, though the notion of 'Indianness' preoccupied the national discourse then, the tutors focused on what Chandavarkar called the 'palpability of place'.

At the workshop, the Kanade brothers provided us with both metaphorical and practical lessons that have served this architect well for over 30 years.



Navnath and Shankar Kanade were the architects behind the Jal Vayu Vihar project in Kalyan Nagar, and the Keremane apartment building in ISRO Layout.

Navnath invoked metaphors, using precedent and comparison to help us understand scale, proportion and phenomenological impact, while Shankar Sir simply sat down with us to draw. I have rarely had a teacher like this — someone who got into the trenches with us and showed us methods, strategies and principles of engagement. Being with him, we saw his single-minded pursuit of joy — the masterful management of challenges into the making of places for well-being.

Shilpa Sindoor, their practice, produced over 500 homes, ranging from large villas to many small residences for people with limited means. On a visit to Keremane, their celebrated apartment building in ISRO Layout, a few years ago, I remember Shankar Sir's recapitulation of the cost break-up of construction and how he reduced it. His homes reveal the empathy he had for clients, working closely with them to stay within budget while offering the bonus of a constantly inspiring place to live. Mohe told us that when Shankar Sir was at Sir J J College of Architecture, Mumbai, he lived in a small room with a large hole in the roof and, when asked about the rains, would say it was wonderful to have the stars overhead. Every challenge was an opportunity.

Their projects reveal their making in literal but idiosyncratic ways. The trace of the hand is immediately perceivable, manifested in intimate scale, glorious imperfections and whimsical compositions. Often, an articulated exterior conceals a rich, mysteriously lit and cavernous interior, even in the smallest homes.

This preoccupation with phenomenology extended to their larger projects too. In the Jal Vayu Vihar housing project in Kalyan Nagar, considered by many to be their most representative work, one can see the ingenious way housing units are assembled to create spatial conditions of incredible variety. Their fascination with the vernacular finds expression here, via B V Doshi, Paolo Soleri and Herman Hertzberger — evoking open-endedness, invention and participatory space.

With the passing of Shankar Sir on December 6, one year after his brother Navnath, we have lost two of our most incandescent teachers. At the heart of their work are values that have disappeared from architecture today — frugality, playfulness, and the deeply political idea that all of us deserve a joyful place to live, irrespective of our station in life.

POPCORN

Choke, si?

Desperate to bring down its skyrocketing air pollution, Delhi has now banned conventional tandoors. Restaurants and eateries will now have to switch to gas or electric tandoors.

So will Delhiites stop eating their favourite tandoori chicken? Will they start their day with southern favourites like idli and dosa? Don't know, but one family has already announced it is leaving the city and settling down in Bengaluru. Bad tandoor, good Bengaloor.

Bengalurean's artwork set for Ayodhya unveiling

Jayashree Phaneesh spent nine months crafting it using gold leaf sheets and precious stones

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

A Bengalurean has created an artwork that will be taken to Ayodhya and unveiled at the Ram temple in the last week of December.

Artist Jayashree Phaneesh said the Rama artwork, plated with gold leaf sheets and studded with rubies, emeralds, corals, pearls, and diamonds, was funded by her family. Inspired by the Thanjavur painting style, it is set in a rosewood frame measuring 10 feet high, 6 feet wide and 2.5 feet deep.

Since receiving a confirmation letter from the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra on December 11, accepting her offering, Jayashree's home in Rajajinagar has seen a steady stream of visitors seeking a glimpse of the artwork. When *Metrolife* visited her on Monday evening, a woman and her daughter-in-law had stopped by for a brief "darshan".

A homemaker and hobbyist artist, Jayashree specialises in Thanjavur paintings. Over the past decade, the 50-year-old has donated 10 of her works to various temples. It was while presenting a painting at a temple in Doddamagge village in Hassan district that she first expressed the desire to create an artwork of Bala Rama (child Rama), the central deity at the Ayodhya temple.

Soon after, a group, including entrepreneur G K Pramod from Bengaluru, contacted the temple authorities. The artwork took Jayashree 2,800 hours over nine months to complete.

She began with a thermocol structure, layered it with clay, and finished it with gold leaf sheets. In the artwork, Rama is accompanied by depictions of Hanuman, Garuda and the Dashavatara.

This was Jayashree's first attempt at "idol-like" artwork. Sculpting the face was the most challenging part and took five days. Her husband, orthopaedic surgeon Dr Phaneesha M S, contributed his anatomical expertise. "I gave inputs on the proportions of the arms, forearms and legs, and the placement of joints. I even sculpted the feet," he said.

Even before the formal acceptance, groups gathered at her house to sing bhajans and dance to devotional compositions. According to Dr Phaneesha, about 25,000 people have visited their home over the past 50 days. The artwork viewing has now been closed.

The couple said once the artwork is moved out, they will miss the "lively atmosphere" it brought into their home. They are looking forward to travelling to Ayodhya for he unveiling.

Jayashree Phaneesh with the Rama artwork, weighing nearly 500 kg, displayed in the living room of her Rajajinagar home.

Choral events for Christmas

ANUSHA MARY JONES
TEAM METROLIFE

With Christmas just around the corner, Bengaluru is set to host a range of concerts across venues in the city. *Metrolife* lists a few.

'His Name is Excellent'

St Marks Cathedral, M G Road, will host its annual carol service, titled 'His Name is Excellent', on December 21, 5.30 pm. The Cathedral's choir will present carols such as 'Zadok the priest' and four short excerpts from G F Handel's oratorio 'Saul' as part of the western classical repertoire. No RSVP required. Free for all.

'Christmas Spectacular'

On December 20, 5.30 pm, the Break Through Worship Ministries will present the concert 'Christmas Spectacular', at the City Harvest AG Church Auditorium, Kothanur. The concert will feature artistes such as Benny Joseph and the gospel music troupe 'Iconic Worship'. It will feature Christmas carols in Tamil, Malayalam, Hindi and English. Entry free. For ticketed VIP passes, call 99404 01129.

'Carols by Candlelight'

All Saints' Church on Hosur Road presents its 'Carols by Candlelight', a concert service at its premises, on December 21, 6.30 pm. The 30-member chorale will perform an assortment of carols, including forgotten Christmas songs such as 'Heav'ns leap for joy' and 'Shepherds, Rejoice'. Entry free.

'Christmas Bash'

Kolkata-based rock band Grooverz will present 'Christmas Bash' at Hard Rock Cafe, M G Road, featuring pop, rock, funk and dance hits, and Christmas classics on December 25, 9.30 pm. This is a ticketed event with an additional cover charge. Tickets available online.

'Jingle Bells Bangalore'

The Bangalore Children's Chorus will present 'Jingle Bells Bangalore' at Sabha BLR, Kamaraj Road, on December 17, at 5 pm and 7.30 pm. The concert will comprise a mix of Christmas carols across themes of joy, hope and love. The performance is dedicated to children around the world, in areas of conflict and war. To attend this ticketed event, RSVP via Whatsapp on 98860 45557.

SILVER JUBILEE REUNION OF BATCH OF 2000

Bangalore Institute of Technology, Basavanagudi, hosted the silver jubilee reunion of the batch of 2000 last Saturday. Nearly 200 alumni and 75 professors attended the gathering. Most of the professors were retired. They were delighted to see their former students well-settled and to reconnect with them after a long time. The alumni felicitated their professors, and discussed ways to contribute to their alma mater.

EVENTS

Kannada play

The Kannada translation of Peter Schafer's play 'Black Comedy' will be staged on Friday. It is titled 'Lights Off'.

This play is about the confusion and disasters created by liars and deceivers when unexpected visitors arrive in the dark. On December 19, 7 pm, Kalagrama, NGEF Layout.

Vintage car showcase

Vintage car collector Ranjit Malik will be showcasing his 1925 Rolls-Royce Phantom I Barker Tourer as part of his "Kashmir to Kanyakumari – 100 Years in Motion" journey from December 19-21 at TVS Emerald Cascadia, Mission Road. For details, call 80621 95060.

'Mahabharata' meets kintsugi

TEAM METROLIFE

An upcoming dance theatre production reimagines how the 'Mahabharata' might have unfolded if its pivotal characters had chosen the path of reconciliation over war. The work draws its inspiration, and its title, from the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with gold, kintsugi.

Lata Pada has conceptualised the show, and her Canada-based Sampradaya Dance Creations is producing it. She saw kintsugi works at an exhibition years ago, and in the 'Mahabharata', a timeless epic marked by human conflict, she saw the potential to explore how reconciliation might reshape destinies. The production brings together Bharatanatyam, kathak and contemporary dancers, musicians, and AI specialists. Param is presenting the show in the city.

The show brings together dance, drama and AI.

'Kintsugi', on December 18, 7 pm, at Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval. Tickets online.

Artist showcases tapestries and mixed media works

The collection, comprising three series, features a total of 25 artworks

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

An art show, which opened at Sublime Galleria last Friday, showcases a collection of mixed media works that focus on themes such as sisterhood, wildlife, spirituality and nature.

Titled 'Tranquil Balance', it is the fifth solo exhibition of Ulsoor-based artist Pragya Jain who is originally from Delhi. "It's a culmination of 10-12 months of work," says Pragya, who started her career with acrylics on canvas. "That was back in 2005. Over the years, I began experimenting, and about two years ago, I started working with embroidery as a medium. I wanted to think out of the box and bring something fresh to the canvas," she adds. 'Tranquil Balance' comprises three separate series featuring a mix of tapestries, paintings and sketches. "Eight out of the 25 pieces are paper works, while the rest are tapestries," she clarifies.

'The Protagonist series' is an artistic commentary on the importance of respecting the natural habitat of animals. "I yearn for a world where they may live unencumbered — where harmony, freedom, and dignity are their birthright," Pragya states in her artist's note. The pieces feature embroidered and painted tigers, mares and cheetahs. In 'The Heritage series', Pragya depicts cows and bulls, considered sacred in India. An ode to the traditional art form Pichwai has been given a contemporary make over with Pragya's forms. The canvas made of linen is printed with her original artwork, and then the intricate embroidery with a dense dimension is added over the print.

'The Existence series', on the other hand, is a reflection of how the artist was raised — in a joint family in Delhi. "I grew up around a large group of cousins. That bond and sisterhood we had is still strong, though we now live in different corners of the world," she explains. One of her tapestries is a celebration of eight of the female cousins she grew up with. They feature hand-embroidered profiles of women against abstract geometric patterns.

While the themes are all distinct, the artist returns to certain motifs and techniques that are her signature. Geometric patterns and animal life have always been at the heart of her work since the start, and in the last few years, textures have also become integral.

On display until January 12, 2026. At Sublime Galleria, Vittal Mallya Road. For details, call 81473 76032.

Pragya Jain

In 'The Heritage series', the artist depicts cows and bulls.

BTP announces traffic advisory to decongest Marathahalli Bridge Junction

BENGALURU, DHNS: In an effort to reduce traffic congestion at the Marathahalli Bridge Junction, the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) has announced traffic diversions on select routes.

These changes will be implemented on a trial basis, starting December 22.

According to the advisory, vehicles approaching Marathahalli Bridge Junction from Devarabeesanahalli and Kadubeesanahalli via the KLM Service Road will not be allowed to take a right turn towards Varthur and Whitefield.

Additionally, the median at Tulsi Theatre Junction will be closed, and vehicles coming from Marathahalli will not be permitted to take a U-turn at Doddanekundi Junction.

As an alternative route, vehicles from Devarabeesanahalli and Kadubeesanahalli heading towards Varthur and Kundalahalli are advised to take the Outer Ring Road, make a U-turn at Karthik Nagar Junction, and proceed via the Kalamandir Service Road to reach Varthur Main Road.

Vehicles traveling to KR Puram from Marathahalli and Kundalahalli can take a right turn at the Doddanekundi Main Road Junction and proceed towards Karthik Nagar Junction via the main road, connecting to the Outer Ring Road.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Book release: SN Prashanth Chandra's 'Compendium on Commercial Courts Act-2015'; Bangalore Bar Association; High Court Unit, Hall 1; 1.45 pm.

Book release: TK Anantha-narayana's 'Kannada Shabdhar-tha Kosha'; Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi; 10 am.

CULTURAL

Drama festival: 'Nannavala Kaa-ga' by Rathnamma R; 'Kanasina Rani' by R Suhas; Sindhu Bhairavi Kala Tondha Trust; Refugee Relief Centre, Magadi Road; 2 pm.

Margashirshotsavam 2025: Mohanur Srikanth Koundinya, Dnyaneshwar Ramakrishnan and Team; Surabharathi, HRBR Layout; 6.30 pm.

Invites to be published in this column should be sent to: **incitytoday@deccanherald.co.in.** Please note that hard copies will not be accepted

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Mist

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	24.4°C
Minimum	16.4°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	43%
Sunset (Dec 17)	5:56 pm
Sunrise (Dec 18)	6:34 am
Moonrise	3:19 am
Moonset	3:01 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

On the occasion of CHRISTMAS Presenting
New Crafts
Silk India®
2025
Exhibition & Sale
12 Days Only
Opening Today
Pure Silk Products directly Purchase by Weavers from Across India
SINDHOOR CONVENTION CENTER
15th Cross, Sarakki, 1st Phase, J.P. Nagar Ring Road, Bengaluru
From : 17th to 28th Dec. 2025
Products on Display - Orissa : Sambhalpuri Ikkat Silk Saree, Bihar : Oragnic Tassar Silk Sarees, Suit & Stoles, Assam : Muga & Eri Silk Sarees, Karnataka : Creap Silk, Georgette Silk, Arini Silk & Printed Sarees, Tamilnadu : Kanjeevaram Silk Sarees & Designer Fancy Sarees, Andra Pradesh : Dharmavara, Uppada, Gadwal, Mangalagiri & Pochampalli Sarees, Uttar Pradesh : Mulbari Silk, Jamdani, Jamawar Silk Sarees & Chiffon Silk, Maharashtra : Designer Dress materials, Chhattisgarh : Exclusive Raw Silk Sarees, Kosa Silk, Tassar Suit & Duppatta, Madhya Pradesh : Maheswari, Chanderi Silk Sarees & Suit, West Bengal : Baluchari, Dhaka Masli, Gicha Sarees, Boutique Sarees, Kantha Sarees, Zordoshi, Jammu & Kashmir : Chinon Silk, Tady Silk Printed Sarees, Pashmina Shawls & Suit, Rajasthan : Kota Silk, Hand Block Print Dress & Sarees, Punjab : Fulkari Dress and many more...
All Credit & Debit Cards Accepted Call: 08850902824
Time : 10.30 am - 8.30 pm
Entry & Parking Free
Org. by : O.A & C.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Application Notification No. B/C.210/KIAD/Halt/SBC/2025-26
Date : 26-11-2025

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for appointment of Halt Agent from educated unemployed persons residing in and around the Kempegowda International Airport (KIAD) Train Halt Station for issuing Unreserved tickets on Commission Basis for a period of five (05) years or till up-gradation of the station whichever is earlier.

Sl. No.	Station	Section	To Start functioning from
1	Kempegowda International Airport (KIAD)	YNK	Date will be notified by the Administration.

Last date and time of submission of application : From 10:00 hours to 16:00 hours of 05-01-2026

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

PUB/716/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway-SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

CONSTRUCTION OF ROB/RUB

Tender Notice No.: CPM-GSU-MLG-ROB-2025-10; Date: 13-12-2025. Open tender through e-tendering system is invited from experienced and reputed contractors (s)/firm(s) for the following works. **Tender No.:** CPM-GSU-MLG-ROB-2025-10. **Name of work:** Construction of ROB/RUB in lieu of LC No. NN-105 at Alipurduar Jn. & CS-2 at Tinsukia. Approx. Value: ₹137,12,93,942.29; **E-tender will be closed at** 14:30 hrs. on 06-01-2026 and **will be opened** at 15:30 hrs. on 06-01-2026. For Details and Corrigendum-01, please visit www.ireps.gov.in.

CPM/GS/Maligaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a smile"

PROVISION OF ELECTRONIC INTERLOCKING SYSTEM

E-Tender Notice No. KIR/Engg/71 of 2025 dated: 12-12-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No. 1. Name of work:** Provision of Electronic Interlocking system in place of conventional panel interlocking system at Radhikapur of Katihar Division. **Tender Value:** ₹1,40,28,788.89/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,20,200/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **15.00** hrs. & opening at **15.30** hrs. on **09-01-2026.** The complete information of above e-tender will be available upto **15.00** hrs. on **09-01-2026** in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

DRM (W), Katihar

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

ANNUAL REPAIRING CONTRACT AT ALIPURDUAR DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. S&T/APDJ/46 dated: 12-12-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No. AP-ST-46-2025-26. Name of work:** Annual Repairing Contract (ARC) of various defective Telecom gears/ OFC card in Alipurduar division for a period of two years (24 Months). **Tender Value:** ₹44,34,493.32/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 88,700/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **15.00** hrs. on **09-01-2026** & opening at **09-01-2026** after closing. The complete information of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

DRM (S&T), Alipurduar Division

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTIFICATION
Hubballi, the 21st November, 2025

S.O. 5324(E). In the exercise of the powers conferred by clause (6) of section 20F and clause 7A of section 2 of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989), the Railways (Amendment) Act,2008 the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Road Safety Projects, Hubballi) hereby authorizes the officers mentioned in column (4) of the table below as 'Competent Authority' and the officers mentioned In column (5) of the table below as 'Arbitrator' to perform the functions as such authority under the said Act with effect from date of publication of this notification in the official gazette in respect of Special Railway Projects mentioned in column (2) relating to districts mentioned in column (3) of the table below for Land Acquisition required for the public purpose.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	District	Competent Authority	Arbitrator
1	Construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of LC No.10 at km 16/100-200 with Limited Height Subway between Chikkabanavar and Golhalli of Bangalore city – Sampige Road Section.	Bangalore Urban	Special Land Acquisition officer, Bangalore	Regional Commissioner, Bangalore
2	Construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of LC No.11 at km 17/439 with Limited Height Subway between Chikkabanavar and Golhalli of Bangalore city – Sampige Road Section.			
3	Proposed Road Over Bridge in lieu of LC No.76 at Km.96/600-700 between Mandya- Yeliyur stations	Mandya	Assistant Commissioner, Pandavapura	Regional Commissioner, Mysuru
4	Construction of Road over bridge (ROB) in lieu of LC No.94 at Km,116/500-600 between Byadrahali Pandavapura			
5	Construction of Road Over Bridge along with subway in lieu of LC No. 15 at km: 25/400-500 between Amritapura - Chitradurga stations.	Chitradurga	Assistant Commissioner, Chitradurga	Regional Commissioner, Bangalore

[F.No. SWR/W.352/ROBs-RSP/Land/2025-26]

For details log on: https://egazette.gov.in

PUB/725/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Ningappa Chandappa Chaluwadi, DY. Chief Engineer/ Road Over Bridges / Road Safety Projects, Hubballi.**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway-SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL)

(A CPSE under Ministry of Road Transport A Highways, Govt. of India)
1st & 2nd Floor, Tower A, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi -110020
F.No. - 261901 **email: helpdesk.resource@nhidcl.com**

Hiring Notice No.: 05/2025

ENGAGEMENT OF ASSOCIATES UNDER STATE SPECIFIC GRADUATE SCHEME (SSGS)

NHIDCL invites online applications from eligible, experienced and qualified Indian Citizens tor the following Technical positions for fixed tenure'

S. No.	Position Name	Remuneration (consultancy fee)	Total available positions	Maximum Age (as on date of Issue of Engagement Advertisement)
1	Associate	Rs.70,000- 80,000	64 Nos.	30 Years

Essential Educational Qualification: Graduate In Civil Engineering or an equivalent discipline from IITs/NITs or other institutions ranked within Top 100 in the Engineering categories of NIRF rankings for the year of their passing out from the Institution.
Experience: 0-2 years after essential education qualification.
Domicile: The candidate should have the domicile status of the State for which he is applying.
List of States/UTs:
I. Assam, 2. Arunachal Pradesh, 3. Jammu & Kashmir, 4. Manipur, 5. Meghalaya, 6. Mizoram, 7. Nagaland, 8. Sikkim, 9.Tripura, 10. Urtarakhand, 11. Ladakh, 12. West Bengal
How to apply:
1. Visit the official NHIDCL website: www.nhidcl.com
2. Navigate to Resource pool portal- **"Current Vacancies 2025-Apply online"**
Important Dates:
* **Commencement of Online Application : 18th December, 2025 (10 00 hrs)**
* **Closing Date for Online Application : 12th January, 2026 (1700 hrs)**
* The crucial date for age determination is the date of issue of Engagement Advertisement.
Selection Process
The selection involves a two stage process:
1. **Stage 1:** Screening of applications by a duly constituted Screening Committee for shortlisting for personal interaction.
2. **Stage 2:** Selection of candidates through personal interaction by a duly constituted Selection Committee.

For detailed eligibility conditions, age limits, and number of vacancies in each state etc., please refer to the detailed advertisement available on NHIDCL website. For any query/updates visit NHIDCL website regulariy.

General Manager (Recruitment)

CBC 37112/12/0009/2526

BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDING THE NATION

Prestige GROUP Add Prestige to your life

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Splitting of Environmental Clearance)

This is to inform the general public that the Environmental Clearance (EC) granted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Karnataka to M/s Prestige Realty Ventures for the Prestige Tech Cloud Project located at Sy. No. 13, Navarathna Agrahara Village, Sadahalli Gate, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, vide File No. SEIAA 06 CON 2015 dated 17.12.2015 and its corrigendum dated 18.05.2022, has been formally split by SEIAA.

Based on the proposal submitted through Proposal No. SIA/KA/INFRA2/471982/2025 , SEIAA in its meeting held on 04.11.2025 has approved the splitting of the EC as under:

- M/s Prestige Realty Ventures Retains 24 Acres 18.15 Guntas along with the corresponding built-up area and associated environmental components as per revised details.
- M/s NTT Global Data Centers BLR4 Private Limited Allotted 8 Acres 21.85 Guntas, and all applicable EC conditions issued earlier shall also apply to the transferee entity along with additional environmental safeguards stipulated by SEIAA.

All other terms and conditions of the EC issued on 17.12.2015 and corrigendum dated 18.05.2022 remain unchanged.

Prestige Realty Ventures
Prestige Falcon Towers, No.19, Brunton Road,
Bangalore -560025

CREDAI

Metro Railway, Kolkata

Dy. Chief Operations Manager/IT, Metro Railway/Kolkata for & On behalf of The President of India invite e-Tenders against Open Tender due to open on 16.01.2026 at 15.00 hrs. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Name of work :** Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Networking Equipment for AFC – PC System in N – S Metro Corridor. **Tender Value :** ₹ 72,57,064.95. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 1,45,200/-. **Cost of Tender Document :** ₹ 0.00. **Completion Period :** 04 Months. The tender can be viewed at website **https://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate on e-Tendering. All relevant papers must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-Tender.

Open Tender Notice No. : OPERATING-AFC-PC-Network Equipment-2025

Follow us at: /metrorailwaykol /metrorailkolkata

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client ("**Our Client**") proposes to enter into a sale transaction with Sri. Ejaz Ahmed Siddique, S/o Feroz Ahmed Siddique, aged about 61 years, residing at No. 374/1, behind New Bade Market, N. R. Mohalla, Mysore – 570004 ("**Owner**") and D. Y. Firoz Khan S/o Yusuf Khan, aged about 68 years, residing at No. 7/3009, Kampanapalya Road, near Kabini College, Kollegala Town, Chamaraja nagara - 571 440 ("**Agreement Holder**") in respect of the properties more particularly detailed in the schedules below ("**Said Properties**").
If any person/s, entity, firm, institution (corporate or otherwise) claiming any right, title, interest, claim, pending litigation, or demand of any nature in or upon the Owners or their predecessor in title, including but not limited to by way of sale, gift, lease, sub-lease, transfer deed, inheritance, agreements, memorandum of understanding, pending litigation, exchange, mortgage, hypothecation, charge, lien, trust, security, possession, easement, attachment, acquisition or otherwise, and/or upon the Said Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with relevant document evidencing their right, title, interest, claim, pending litigation, or demand with respect of the Said Property within **Seven (07)** days from the date of this notice, failing which such claim shall be considered to have been waived and/or given up. Objections and/or claims received after expiry of the period stipulated above shall not be entertained nor be binding on our Client and shall be considered as non-existent and /or waived.

SCHEDULE 'A'

All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 1/2 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring two (2) acres.
All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 58/1 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring one (1) acre and twenty (20) guntas.
All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 59/3 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring one (1) acre and twenty six (26) guntas.
All the above-mentioned lands being contiguous lands are bounded as under:-
East by : Government Road;
West by : Property in Sy. No. 1/1, 59/1 & 58/2.
North by : Property belonging to Ejaz Ahmed Siddique in Sy. No. 16/6 & 17/3, Private property in Sy.No.16/3 and Road.
South by : Survey No. 57/1, 59/1 & 59/2 .
together with all rights, privileges attached thereto and all easement rights, water courses and right of access.

SCHEDULE 'B'

All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 17/3 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring twenty (20) guntas and bounded as under :-
East by : Property belonging to Puttamadappa in Survey No. 17/2;
West by : Property belonging to Yatheesh Kumar in Sy. No. 16/3;
North by : Bandipura & Jakkahalli Government Road
South by : Property belonging to Ejaz Ahmed Siddique in Sy. No. 1/2, private property in Sy No. 1/1 & Road.
together with all rights, privileges attached thereto and all easement rights, water courses and right of access.

SCHEDULE 'C'

All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 16/4 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring twenty and a half (20 ½) guntas.
All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 16/5 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring twenty and a half (20 ½) guntas.
All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing Survey No. 16/6 situated at Jakkahalli village, Hangala hobli, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagara, measuring twenty and a half (20 ½) guntas.
All the above-mentioned lands being contiguous lands are bounded as under:- East by : Property belonging to Yatheesh Kumar in Sy. No. 16/3;
West by : Private Property in Sy. No. 15/2 & 15/3;
North by : Bandipura & Jakkahalli Government Road
South by : Road & Sy. No. 1/2 belonging to Ejaz Ahmed Siddique.
together with all rights, privileges attached thereto and all easement rights, water courses and right of access.

Date : 17.12.2025

Meena Venugopal, Partner,
Kochhar & Co. Advocates and Legal Consultants,
201, Prestige Sigma, No. 3, Vittal Mallya Road,
Bangalore - 560001. Tel: (080) 4030 8000
Email : meena.venugopal@bgl.kochhar.com

Directorate of Tourism, Government of Jharkhand
MDI Building, 2nd floor, HEC Campus, Dhurwa, Ranchi-04
Tele Fax : 0651-2331828, Email: dirjhakhandtourism@gmail.com/ jtdcltd@gmail.com

Ref.No.:- 1268 /2025 **Date:16/12/2025**

VERY SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Tender For Selection of Agency for Set Up Operation & Management of Pre-Fabricated Cottages Facilities Latehar, Jharkhand (3rd Call)

TheJharkhandTourismDevelopmentCorporationLimited(JTDCL),Governmentof Jharkhand (GoJ) undertaking intends to publish RFP for **Selection of Agency for Set Up Operation & Management of Pre-Fabricated Cottages Facilities Latehar, Jharkhand (3rd Call)** The detailed RFP document can be downloaded from the below mentioned website : https ://jtdcl.jharkhand.gov.in, and submit their offline Applications.

The applications Submission Due date is on or before **24/12/2025 at 05.00 Pm** and the date of opening of the tender on **26/12/2025 at 2.00 Pm**. All subsequent notifications, changes and amendments will be posted only on the above website.

Sd/-
Deputy Director

PR 368712 Tourism, Art Culture Sports And Youth Affairs(25-26)#D

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Application Notification No. 565/STBA/12/2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for appointment of **Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA)** at the following Railway Stations over Bengaluru Division of South Western Railway for issuing of Unreserved / General Tickets through Unreserved Ticket System (UTS) on commission basis for the period as mentioned against the station:

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Station Code	Station Category	Period of Contract
1.	Heelalige	HLE	NSG-6	03 Years
2.	Belandur Road	BLRR		

Date and Time of submission of application: From 10:00 Hrs. to 15:00 Hrs. on 16.01.2026

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

PUB/741/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Bengaluru**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

CITATION

IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE AT SEDAM

E.P.No.10/2018

Vijaykumar Pola V/s **M/s Reliance Infratel Ltd**

U/O 21 Rule 11 of the C.P.C 1908

To,
Reliance Infratel Ltd, Reliance House, 8th Mail, Nesar Ghatta Cross, NH-4, Tumkur Road, Bangalore-560057.
Whereas the above named DHR/plaintiff has filed suit in OS.No.56/2009 before the Hon'ble court in respect of suit plot.
The Hon'ble Court has been pleased to issue notice of proclamation and to remove the tower in the suit plot and further recovery amount of Rs.18,20,000/- from 03.06.2009 to 03.06.2025.
In the above case the Hon'ble court has already issue notice and summons to the above said JDR No.1 through RPAD, but JDR No.1 is intentionally avoiding to receive notice and summons issued from the Hon'ble court, hence the JDR No.1 are hereby called upon to appear before the Hon'ble court in person or through advocate.
The date of next hearing fixed for appearance on 30.01.2026 at 11:00 AM otherwise the order will passed ex-parte in your absence.
Given under my hand the seal of this court on this12th day of December 2025 by the order of the court.

// By order of the court //

Sd/-
S. K. Deshpande
Advocate for DHR

Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Order of the Hon'ble Court
Civil Judge & J.M.F.C. at Sedam

DH
DECCAN HERALD
ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
Freedom
Healthy Cooking Oils
Presents
Bhumika Club
Powered by
manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON
#NanuBhumika
Christmas Special
Event Highlights
Zumba session
by Chandana Lakshmikanth
Special games
and interactions by RJ Akshaya
Live music
performance by Anagha
Stand-up comedy
performance by Varshini
Health & wellness
Dr Poonam Patil Consultant Medical Oncology, Immunotherapy and Precision Medicine, Manipal Hospitals
Cookery Contest
Hi-Tea & Networking
Bhumika Club
is back in namma bengaluru
Ladies of Bengaluru, this one's for you! Join us for the 14th Edition of Bengaluru Bhumika Club and celebrate the season with Christmas cheer, music, games, exciting prizes, and festive contests. Make new connections, enjoy sparkling live performances, and come with your friends and family for a truly special day.
Scan here to Register!
For more details call:
9035036186
20TH DECEMBER, SATURDAY
4 PM ONWARDS
Venue: Indiranagar Club, 4th Cross, 8th Main Road, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore.
FREE ENTRY
*T&C Apply
Win big in the lucky draw
1 water purifier worth ₹15000
2 VVIP passes for Prajavani Cine Sammana 2026
10 couple tickets at a multiplex for a blockbuster movie

S.E. Railway Scrap Sale Through E-Auction

No. SER/HQ-STOR0SALE(DSPL)/1/2025-SALE/4 Dated : 15.12.2025
E-Auction Programme for the month of January, February, March-2026
Auction Programme 4th Quarter - 2025-26

Month	Division and Depot				
	Adra Division	Kharagpur Depot	Chakradharpur Division	Kharagpur Division	Ranchi Division
January 2026	01.01.2026	06.01.2026	07.01.2026	01.01.2026	02.01.2026
	05.01.2026	13.01.2026	14.01.2026	08.01.2026	09.01.2026
	12.01.2026	20.01.2026	21.01.2026	15.01.2026	16.01.2026
	19.01.2026	27.01.2026	28.01.2026	22.01.2026	30.01.2026
	27.01.2026	30.01.2026	30.01.2026	29.01.2026	
February 2026	02.02.2026	03.02.2026	04.02.2026	05.02.2026	06.02.2026
	09.02.2026	10.02.2026	11.02.2026	12.02.2026	13.02.2026
	16.02.2026	17.02.2026	18.02.2026	19.02.2026	20.02.2026
	23.02.2026	24.02.2026	23.02.2026	23.02.2026	25.02.2026
	26.02.2026		25.02.2026	26.02.2026	27.02.2026
March 2026	02.03.2026	06.03.2026	02.03.2026	05.03.2026	06.03.2026
	09.03.2026	10.03.2026	11.03.2026	12.03.2026	13.03.2026
	16.03.2026	17.03.2026	18.03.2026	19.03.2026	20.03.2026
	23.03.2026	24.03.2026	23.03.2026	26.03.2026	27.03.2026
	30.03.2026	27.03.2026	25.03.2026	30.03.2026	

N.B. : Please visit website: **www.ireps.gov.in/e-Auction** for details of e-Auction schedule and Catalogue.

(PR-964) **Principal Chief Materials Manager/Garden Reach**

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

Nehru STREAM labs to include 'user-friendly' apps

Initiative aimed at addressing 'fear of science' in students

SUJAY B M
BELAGAVI, DHNS:

The Nehru Science, Technology, Robotics, Ecology, Astronomy and Mathematics (STREAM) labs being set up in 41 public schools across the Kalyana Karnataka region will include a "user-friendly" app accessible to both teachers and students. The project is named after India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

According to the concept note prepared by the Sikshana Foundation, which *DH* has accessed, the app will provide videos, virtual experiments, interactive simulations related to the subject, and will allow real-time data input and visualisation for science activities.

Other features include bilingual (Kannada/ English) lesson plans and teacher guides, in-app student quizzes, tests and progress tracking, curriculum-aligned inquiry based content, integrates with desktop, tablet, or smart classroom setups and generates class-wise and student-wise performance reports.

The concept note mandates creating separate login credentials and interfaces for students, teachers and administrators.

On December 14, Science and Technology Minister N S Boseraju announced that 41 Nehru STREAM labs will be established across 41 public schools (one in each of the 41 constituencies) in the Kalyana Karnataka region. The project will be implemented in collaboration with the Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board (KKRDB).

The move intends to integrate interdisciplinary concepts with practical activities, cultivate curiosity, critical thinking and problem solving skills.

The scheme will be applicable to classes 6 to 10, with over 50 explorations suggested per class for initial implementation.

The project, planned to be executed over five years, has an estimated budget of Rs 8.01 crore. A sum Rs 3.01 crore, Rs 1.16 crore, Rs 1.21 crore, Rs 1.27 crore and Rs 1.34 crore will be spent during the first, second, third, fourth and fifth years of the project, respectively.

"Experiential learning bridges the post-COVID gap, addressing the fear of science among students through hands-on experiments and interactive demonstrations, benefiting rural students. In a pilot study, schools using Nehru STREAM Labs reported a 25% increase in student engagement and a 15% improvement in academic performance in science subjects," the concept note states.

The move also intends to increase attendance rates in schools, especially in rural areas, as students actively engage in enjoyable learning experiences.Implementation method

The selected agency will have to provide end-to-end training of teachers to ensure effective integration of STREAM Labs into regular classroom instruction. The training will encompass both theoretical and practical aspects of STREAM.

SC quashes FIR against Ashoka in land scam

Court finds absence of sanction, malice

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Tuesday quashed an FIR filed against senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister R Ashoka in 2018, in an alleged scam concerning regularisation of unauthorised occupation of lands.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and Vipul M Pancholi found absence of sanction and malice in the proceedings initiated.

"The actions against the appellant ex facie appear to be politically motivated and thereby afflicted by malice. Even if delay was kept aside, the prosecution of the appellant could not proceed in the eyes of the law," the bench said.

The bench noted three complaints were filed by members of the rival party, Congress, while first two were found to be lacking sufficient material.

"This shows concerted effort on the part of the complainants to cast aspersions on the credibility of the appellant as a public leader, as also impute ill-intention upon him despite having, on earlier occasions, failed to do so. These facts can be said to be pointing towards malice when taken together with the fact of time gap," the bench said.

The court allowed the appeal by Ashoka and set aside the Karnataka High Court's judgment of Sept 25, 2018, which declined to quash the FIR.

The bench emphasised that 'this court has consistently held that when the state deals with public property, whether by allotment, lease, or otherwise, it must act fairly, reasonably and in a manner that does not give rise to any semblance of favouritism or extraneous considerations'.

The appellant was an elected member of the Assembly. Between 1998 and 2007, he was chairman of the committee for regularisation of unauthorised occupation. The members thereof were the tahsildar as secretary and three other persons.

It was alleged that under the chairmanship of the appellant, the land that was originally meant to be allotted to economically downtrodden persons and those below poverty line as also scheduled castes, was allotted to members of his family/followers/ members of the city corporation, etc.

The court heard senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi, Sajan Poovayya, Gaurav Agraval for the appellant, and P B Suresh, Harin P Rawal, state's additional advocate general Aman Pawar and advocates Abhishek Bharti and Balaji Srinivasan.

The court said the first complaint was made five years after the end of the period in 2007 on September 5, which was closed in November that year.

Reopening was ordered, investigated and the complaint was again closed in 2014.

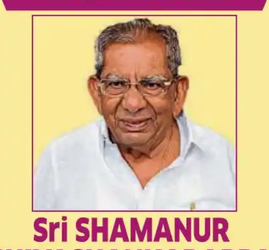
At the end of 2017, a fresh complaint was filed, on which no action has been taken. In 2018, the subject complaint came to be filed, i.e. almost 11 years later.

"Why was the first complaint filed after five years, and why did the complainant maintain silence from 2014 to 2017, when the second complaint was filed, was unexplained," the bench said.

The court held that the submission of the appellant that the absence of a sanction vitiated proceedings against him was liable to be accepted.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Obituaries & Remembrance Advertisements
Log on to : https://homages.deccanherald.com
or
Scan QR code to access booking form

HOMAGE



Sri SHAMANUR SHIVASHANKARAPPA
M.L.A., & Ex-Minister, Govt. of Karnataka
Deeply mourned By
The Karnataka Brewers & Distillers' Association
Bangalore

OBITUARY

Kausalya Ramaseshan
2.12.1929 - 16.12.2025
Please pay respects 10am - 1:30 pm
17.12.2025 at her residence
Lovingly remembered by
Arati Raman, Sita Sunder,
Tara Ramaseshan and their families

SAD DEMISE
It is with deep sorrow that we inform you of the passing of

Ravi Narayanan, CBE
1943 – 2025
A distinguished leader in development, water and public policy, he was a loving husband, devoted father, cherished grandfather and wonderful friend. He will be remembered for his warmth, integrity, wisdom, compassion and sense of service.
May his soul be at peace.

Bengaluru city police commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh (extreme right), with director Ramesh Reddy, actors Upendra, Shivarajkumar, Sudharani, Raj B Shetty, Pramod Shetty and music composer Arjun Janya at the trailer launch of the Kannada film '45'. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Actor Shivarajkumar in a woman's get-up in the film.

Trailer of Kannada film '45' launched

BENGALURU, DHNS

The producers of the latest Sandalwood film '45' recently launched its trailer at a grand function held at the Kempegowda ground near Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha in the city.

The trailer was simultaneously released in Hubballi, Mysuru, Tumakuru and Udupi (all virtually). Actor Shivarajkumar's appearance in a woman's get-up was the highlight at the event. Actor-director Upendra lauded his effort in the role.

On his role as a woman, Shivarajkumar said, "After 'Annavra Makkalu', I've appeared as a woman in this film. It has good quality graphics to give it that flair and flavour".

Upendra said producers who encourage use of high-quality graphics in filmmaking are needed. It enhances final product, he added.

Actor-director Raj B Shetty said, "I grew up watching Shivanna (Shivarajkumar) and Upendra on screen. Now, I have shared screen with them. We always speak about our films not reaching other states. Hope this film breaks that". '45' hits the screens on December 25.

DH Classifieds
More value, more impact
email: classifieds@deccanherald.co.in
For your Classified Advertisements, Contact:
080 - 45557160 /161/ 162/ 163/ 164/
98451 14560 / 97318 10277/ 9886213331

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, our client has negotiated and agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners Madhivekaran Chinnsamy & Hemavathi P. All persons having any claims against the Schedule Property or any part thereof are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office within 15 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which our clients shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived. This notice is issued in the interest of the intending purchaser.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the Site No 13, Katha No.4114, Property No.9983899924, presently comes under the limits of CMC Hebbagodi, carved out of converted Sy.Nos.114 & 115, measuring East to West : 65 Feet & North to South: 40 Feet, totally measuring 2600 Square Feet, in the Layout Known and called as "RELIAABLE LAVENDULA", situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru together with all appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded:
East: Site No.32, West: Road, North: Site No.14, South Site No.12.
Dated this 16th day of December, 2025 (16-12-2025), Bangalore.
Sd/-
M/s. Jury Legal Solutions
Advocates
No. 8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102.
Mob: 9844481368, 9902195500

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that, our client **M/s. Primeur Farmstead Private Limited** has agreed to purchase the Schedule mentioned property from its owner Shri. Addagada Rajesh Son of Shri Addagada Mallikarjuna Rao, Resident of Flat No. 502, Ceasors Sion Apartments, Kithaganur Main Road, Behind Garden City College, Bangalore. Therefore, the general public are hereby called upon to submit/ lodge their objections if any with regard to the proposed Sale Transaction within 15 days from the date of this publication with the undersigned together with relevant documents. If no objections were received within the said date, my client shall proceed with the completion of the sale transaction. Any claims / objections / complaints received thereafter shall not be binding on my client.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Plot No.12, BBMP Khatha No.73/78/89/21&22/12, BBMP Khatha Sl. No.73, situated in the Residential Layout "Shub Enclave" comprised in Converted Sy. No. 21 & 22 duly converted from Agricultural purposes to Non Agricultural Residential Purposes vide Official Memorandum bearing No.B.Dis.ALN.SR(S)452/88-89 & No.B.Dis.ALN.SR(S)454/88-89 both dated 30.03.1989 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, situated at Ambalipura Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Erstwhile Bangalore South Thaluk, presently within the jurisdiction of Bangalore East Nagara Palike, Greater Bangalore Authority, having EPID No. 2605794822, Ward No.150, Bellandur, Bangalore measuring towards East 19 Feet, towards West 3 Feet, towards North173 Feet and towards South 174 Feet, totally measuring 1910 sq ft., and bounded on **East by :** Plot No.7, **West by ::** Road, **North by ::** Gramatana of Ambalipura, **South by ::** Plot No.8 & 13.
Prasad & Prasanna, Advocates,
No.81/1, M. T. B. Building, 1st Floor, Begur Road, Near Baldwin School, Hongasandra, Bangalore -560 068
Phone : 8792235359 / 9535749494
Email : prasannar_143@rediffmail.com

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Accounts & Finance

ACCOUNTANT WITH 5yrs Exp. Knowledge of Tally, Excel & M.S Office Must. Salary 25k To 30k Jakkur 8123243297 info@behlconstruction.com

WANTED-TALLY PROFESSIONAL In Accounts Department, Location, Siddaiah Road Near Shanti Nagar Bus Stand Ct: 9535218502 9845351200.

WANTED ACCOUNTANT with 2-3 Years Experience for Established CA Firm in Bengaluru. Should be able to work Independently. Salary Commensurate with Experience. Please send mail to : venkatesh@nca-india.com

WANTED EXPERIENCED ACCOUNTANTS (Male)for dealing Income Tax Matters. Salary.Rs.25000 to Rs.40000.pm. Contact: G.Subramaniam BIMS Consulting Group Near Shivananda Circle. (9448575683) bimsconsult@yahoo.com

General

WANTED OFFICE assistant with two wheeler. Attractive salary will be given based on candidate experience. Contact: 080- 23588510/ 8431046669/ 9036688651

Multiple Vacancy

VIDYA SOUDHA ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
Affiliated of Bangalore University, Approved by AICTE, New Delhi
Peenya, Bengaluru-560058
REQUIRES
Assistant Professor
Commerce & Management
Master's Degree/MBA /NET/KSET/Ph.D. preferred
Admin/Marketing Executive
Any Degree | Master Degree
Min. 2 yrs. (Experience in education institution preferred)
Interested candidates can email their profiles to :
hr@vidyasoudha.edu.in
Or Call : +91 89715 66659
on or before 20.12.2025
ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾವಕಾಶ
ಡ್ರೈವರ್‌ಗಳು ಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ
ಆಸಕ್ತರು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ
ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ನಂ.
9845696949

HRD & Admin

WANTED MALE/ Female Office Assistant Any Degree Knowing Tally, Fluent In English, Kannada, Hindi Around Rajajinagar Contact: 9108458798/ 9845579620

Janatha Education Society®
VIVEKANANDA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Dr. Rajkumar Road, Next to Orion Mall, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560055.
Phone: 080 - 23371952 | 6366733434 | jobs@jes-edu.in
Applications are invited for the following posts
VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Assistant Executive Engineer : B.E Civil with 10 yrs exp., salary commensurate with experience.
Placement Officer : MBA with 5 years experience
Physical Edn Director (F) : B.PEd / M.PEd with 3 yrs exp.
Attender : Pass in SSLC
Candidates to submit their BIODATA by post / in person to Hon.Secretary, JES within 7 days or email to jobs@jes-edu.in
H.C Balakrishna Hon.President
Appareddy Harish Hon.Secretary

Wanted

WANTED EXPERIENCED Dhobis for a laundry washing unit in Bannerghatta, Bangalore Salary : 18,000 to 25,000 Call: 9880266007 / 8050666007

Part-Time Jobs

PART-TIME JOB, Android smart phone mandatory. Only WhatsApp on: 7019246661.

Walk-in

WALK-IN INTERVIEW
We are hiring Fresher & experienced Candidates for the post of
SALES EXECUTIVES / BRANCH MANAGER / CLUSTER MANAGER
Location: Bangalore, Karnataka
Interview
Date: 18th December, Thursday,
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Venue: Mahaveer Finance India Ltd., Shri Venkatadri Door No.646, 5th Main Road, RBI Layout, Phase 7, J P Nagar Bangalore, Karnataka - 560078
Contact person: Mr. Suresh M, (Branch Manager) - 97432 84200
Mr. Shashikumar B N (Branch Manager) 89044 58648
email: bangalore@mahaveerfinance.com

Graphic Designers

WANTED MALE Graphic Designer (Corel Draw Photoshop Illustrator) Pvt Ltd Company around Rajajinagar Contact: 9108458798/ 9845579620

RENTAL PROPERTIES

Accommodation Available

Commercial

GANDHI BAZAAR Main Road: Rent 60K. GF 140 Sft Office Space, Good Frontage. Contact: 9110235083

BUILDERS ESSENTIAL

Water Proofing

LEAKAGE...
LEAKAGE... Old/New Building, Sump, Bathroom, Wallcrack, Skylight, Terrace Waterproofing done by New Technology- 9880916988

REAL ESTATE SELLING

Industrial & Factory

Tumkur Road

SALE/ BUILT to suit, 9.5 Acres Industrial Land near Babaspet. Suitable for Industry, Warehouse. 9972636255

CAUTION NOTICE
Readers are advised to make appropriate thorough enquiries before acting upon any advertisement. This newspaper does not vouch or subscribe to the claims and representations made by advertisers.
Advertisement Manager
The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd.
Bengaluru

CONNECT Classifieds

MYSORE EDUCATION SOCIETY
MES PROF. B.R. SUBBARAO PU COLLEGE
#05, 2nd 'B' Cross, IV Main, III Stage, 11th 'B' Cross, I Block, BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru-560097
College Code: AN 0486

080-23646446
8861126840, 8861126826, 8861121122, 8861123636
mesbrs@gmail.com
https://mesbrspuc.in
Hearty Congratulations to Yash. Y and Pranav. M Patil of II PUC, on winning the First Prize in the State Level Quiz Competition conducted by The Department of School Education (Pre-University) Bengaluru
With best wishes, Management, Principal, Faculty & Staff

PERSONAL

Change of Name

I, NAYEMMUNNISA A R D/o Abdul Rahim aged about 68 years residing at ward 16 Azad Nagar Sidlaghatta Town Chikkaballapur Dist. Have Changed my name to Nayeemunnisa A R vide affidavit dated 15.12.2025 before Notary N.R Ravi Kumar, Sidlaghatta. Henceforth I shall be called as Nayeemunnisa A R only.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Madhu W/o Dalbir Singh, resident of L-401, Sipani Royal Heritage, Chandapura, Suryanagar, Iggalur, Bangalore District-562106. have changed my name from MADHU to POONAM vide affidavit dated: 15.12.2025 before advocate and notary Muniswamy .T, Bengaluru Dist-562106.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SARDAR SALIM BAIG S/o Sardar Baig, residing at # P-8/2, Aste Officers Enclave, Vishwa Vihar, C.V.Raman Nagar, Varthur Road, Bengaluru - 560093, have changed my name from SARDAR SALIM BAIG to SALIM BAIG, vide affidavit 15.12.2025 before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

RASHI GATEWAY
Premium Plots @
NELAMANGALA
Beside JAS Tollgate, Bangalore Pune Highway
BMRDA / NPA
APPROVED SITES FOR SALE
✓ Large Plots
✓ Corner Plots on 80Ft Road
✓ Bank loan Available for Plots
Contact :
+91 99020 52259

DH Classifieds More value, more impact
ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
RECRUITMENT
BOOK YOUR JOB ADS IN DECCAN HERALD ALL KARNATAKA + PRAJAVANI BENGALURU CITY
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY @ 550/-* PER SQCM
SINGLE / DOUBLE / MULTIPLE COLUMN
www.dhclassifieds.com
BOOK NOW
For more details contact:
+91 9845114560 | +91 9886213331 | +91 9731810277

Siddu slams Centre's decision to replace MGNREGA

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Centre's decision to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with other legislations was reflective of its 'hatred' towards both Gandhiji and the poor.

The CM's remarks follow the Centre's decision to replace MGNREGA with the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025.

In a statement released to the media, Siddaramaiah stated,"While MGNREGS offered a genuine guarantee of employment, the new legislation proposed by the Modi government does away with this guarantee, placing the onus on the whims of political leaders. This will lead to more caste-based discrimination and create social inequality," the CM said.

Siddaramaiah also took exception to the Centre's decision to share the financial burden for the scheme with the states. The new legislation stipulates that, while the Centre will foot 60% of the expenditure for the scheme, the states will have to contribute the rest. This was yet another illustration of the Modi-led government's 'anti-federal' attitude, the CM said.

Siddaramaiah said that the new legislation did not assure people of employment in their hometown, which would compel them to migrate to other places in search of jobs.

Expressing outrage at the Centre's decision to remove Mahatma Gandhi's name from the act, Siddaramaiah said, "From the Parivar that seeks to glorify Gandhi's assassin Godse, what else can you really expect?"

Proposal to hire 1,600 PSIs before fin dept: Parameshwara

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The state government has proposed recruitment to 1,600 vacant posts of police sub-inspectors (PSI), Home Minister G Parameshwara said in the Assembly on Tuesday.

"The proposal has been sent to the finance department," he said.

Parameshwara said recruitment was stalled due to irregularities in the process of hiring 545 PSIs.

"At present, we've filled up 947 PSI posts and the selected candidates are undergoing training," he added.

CM gives mixed signals about his tenure, sparks debate in Assembly

'We will return to power in 2028, I know the pulse of people'

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah gave mixed signals about his tenure during a heated discussion on the leadership tussle with his deputy D K Shivakumar in the Assembly on Tuesday.

"We [Congress] are in the government. I am the CM now...as long as the high command [wants]," Siddaramaiah said, giving ammunition to the Opposition BJP.

"You kept saying you'll be the CM for a full five-year term," BJP's V Sunil Kumar said.

To this, Siddaramaiah retorted: "Even now, I'm the CM. I'll be CM going forward as well."

This exchange happened during Question Hour when Kunigal Congress MLA H D Ranganath raised the issue of very few farmers receiving cooperative crop loans in his constituency.

Ranganath is a known Shivakumar loyalist. The MLA's grouse was that Madhugiri taluk, represented by Siddaramaiah's aide K N Rajanna, was proritised over Kunigal. "I want this discrimination to be fixed," he said.

"Ranganath has raised the issue with outrage. Have faith in me. If there's any discrimination, we'll address it," Siddaramaiah, who holds the cooperation porfolio, told the MLA.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah makes a point during a debate in the Legislative Assembly at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi on Tuesday. Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda is also seen.

Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka asked Siddaramaiah if Ranganath was discriminated against for supporting Shivakumar's chief ministerial ambition.

"Don't rub salt on a wound," Siddaramaiah said. "Does that mean there is a wound?" Ashoka asked.

"None of our MLAs will be provoked despite attempts by the Opposition," Siddaramaah declared. "People have blessed with a mandate for five years. All 140 MLAs are with us. Don't try to meddle. We will complete our term," he said.

BJP's S Suresh Kumar pointed out that Siddaramaiah had gone from 'I' to 'we'. He said: "You were saying, 'I will be CM for a full term'. You're now saying, 'We will complete the full term'."

Siddaramaiah clarified that he would abide by the Congress high command's decision. "People have blessed us for five years. People haven't blessed the BJP even once. We will return to power in 2028. I know the pulse of people," he said. "Next election, their [BJP] numbers will be lower."

Home Minister G Parameshwara intervened during the arguments to say that Siddaramaiah had clarified on the government completing its term. "What more clarity do you want?" he said.

Ashoka quipped, "Parameshwara has always sided with Siddaramaiah, perhaps sensing an opportunity for himself."

Aland 'vote chori' rocks Assembly as Cong MLA seeks discussion

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Charges of voter fraud in the Aland constituency briefly rocked the Assembly on Tuesday when senior Congress lawmaker B R Patil sought to initiate a discussion on how attempts were made by the BJP to defeat him in the 2023 election.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) on the Aland voter fraud case in Kalaburagi district has filed a charge sheet naming former BJP MLA Subhas Guttedar and his son Harshanand.

The SIT has accused the BJP leader and his son of attempting to delete 5,994 voters from Aland before the 2023 election. Guttedar, a four-time MLA, had defeated Patil by a slender margin of 697 votes in 2018. In the 2023 election, however, Patil wrested the seat, winning by 9,348 votes.

"I want to raise a serious issue. In a democracy, people have the right to elect their representatives. An attempt was made to prevent me from entering this Assembly. The 'vote chori' has been exposed," Patil said.

"We need to know how many BJP members got elected because of 'vote chori'," the Aland MLA said.

Speaker U T Khader tried convincing Patil that his issue was not listed in the day's agenda. "I will allow this later," he said.

Intervening, Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge, who is in charge of the Kalaburagi district, demanded that Patil be allowed to speak.

During this, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka reminded Khader that the BJP had sought a discussion on 'diversion' of SC/ST funds and other issues.

BJP's V Sunil Kumar said the government should first table the SIT's report in the Aland case. "Let it also table the SIT report on Dharmasthala," he said. "Under what rule should we discuss this (Aland case)?" he sought to know.

System to reduce non-teaching duties for teachers from next year

BELAGAVI, DHNS: School Education and Literacy Minister Madhu Bangarappa on Tuesday informed the Council that a system to bring down the load of non-teaching duties on teachers - including supervision of midday meal scheme implementation- would be introduced from the next academic year.

Initiatives like the facial attendance system would also help teachers get more time for teaching, he said.

After BJP MLC C T Ravi suggested that the government introduce a separate system to manage the midday meal scheme at schools and distribution of eggs, to make teachers free from non-teaching work, the minister said simplification initiatives would be introduced.

WAITING FOR THEIR TURN

Students wait in queue to enter Suvarna Vidhana Soudha to witness the legislature proceedings, in Belagavi on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/RANJU P

Govt to hold international job fair next year

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Medical Education, Skill Development, Employment and Livelihood Minister Sharan Prakash Patil said that an international job fair would be organised in February or March to help job aspirants get jobs in foreign countries.

A roadshow, ahead of the event, has already been held in Australia, where there is a demand for 2,500 ITI holders.

The job fair would connect job aspirants with foreign firms hiring for openings abroad, he told the Legislative Council on Tuesday, he said.

"After conducting mega job fairs in Bengaluru, Kalaburagi and Mysuru, we have the data of job seekers and employers here, and they can be connected online also. The plan is to have the next job fair in Hubballi," Patil noted.

A skill council, comprising industries, has been formed. An industrial linkage scheme is in place.

Under this, companies provide the details of skills they require in job aspirants, and the government trains the youth free of cost. The companies have to hire them, he said.

Patil added that multiskill development centres would be set up in Kalaburagi, Koppal and Mysuru, especially for youth from rural areas.

When some job aspirants observed that women need certificates in tailoring training to get employed in garment firms, the minister assured them to give more impetus to tailoring training.

Govt to regulate admission to some engineering streams

Concern over huge intake for Computer Science stream

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Out of 1.53 lakh engineering seats available in the state, as many as 99,707 are for computer science and allied subjects this year, the Council was told on Tuesday.

Expressing concern over the demand only for a particular stream, Higher Education Minister Dr M C Sudhakar said in the House that it will be a big problem in the near future and cause huge unemployment.

"Considering this issue seriously as soon as I took charge, I had written to All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), requesting them to regulate intake for computer science and related streams. But they said they cannot regulate and permission was given following the demand," he said.

Sudhakar said the state government had decided to impose a cap on intake for a few streams, including CS.

"A similar decision was taken by the Telangana government, which was even upheld by the High Court and Supreme Court. We will also rationalise seats and restrict intake for a few streams," he added.

The minister was replying to a question by BJP's Dr Dhananjaya Sarji and Pradeep Shettar. Sarji said 90% seats at private universities are in CS and related streams.

"One university, by name Sapthagiri, has 4,320 seats. In this, 4,020 are for the CS stream. But in government colleges, only 10% of overall intake is for CS," he said.

In response, Sudhakar said, "Big fish is eating small fish. The private universities and colleges have created infrastructure. Because of them, colleges in tier 2 and 3 cities are facing problems".

Notice to pvt varsities

In a reply to the Legislative Council, Higher Education Minister Dr M C Sudhakar said that the Higher Education Department has issued notices to two private universities, which have enhanced intake and started new streams without prior permission from the government.

Bill passed to include Sudha Murty, other MPs in GBA

BELAGAVI, DHNS

The Assembly on Tuesday passed the Greater Bengaluru Governance (Second Amendment) Bill, enabling Sudha Murty and other MPs connected with the city to become members of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

Piloting the Bill, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said some MPs and MLCs had been left out of the GBA.

"The likes of [Rajya Sabha] member Sudha Murty, Chikkaballapur MP K Sudhakar... whose constituencies partly come under GBA had been left out. Also, those who are voters in the city will be added as GBA members," Shivakumar, the Bengaluru development minister, said.

Shivakumar announced that he would drop a clause to nominate one member as additional councillor for every 20,000 population in city corporations until elections are held in that particular area.

"There are 369 wards. If the government adds one nominated person, there will be another 369 members. This will create confusion," BJP's Suresh Kumar said.

Shivakumar concurred that there was scope for confusion. "We will drop this," he said. "We had to include new representatives when new areas got included in GBA. That's why we had made a provision to nominate members."

Voting rights

Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka said Rajya Sabha members and MLCs should not be allowed to vote in local bodies outside Bengaluru.

"They changed their addresses and vote in different places. This will amount to proxy voting, which will give undue advantage to the ruling party," he said. The DCM agreed with this.

When senior Congress lawmaker Basavaraj Rayareddi said such a restriction may contravene provisions of the Representation of the People Act, Shivakumar retorted, "No. We can't allow touring talkies".

Sishu Griha Senior School emerge winners in Prajavani quiz

BENGALURU, DHNS

The team from Sishu Griha Senior School, Bengaluru, won the state-level Prajavani quiz championship.

The team maintained lead from the beginning and performed well in the last round to increase its winning margin. The competition was held at RV Auditorium in Jayanagar, recently.

Little Rock Indian School, Brahmavara, Udupi, bagged the second place. The third place was taken by Basaveshwar International Public School, Bagalkot.

The students were excited about every question that ranged from literature, science to social studies, research, wildlife and current affairs. They confidently answered them.

It was held in five rounds - 'Orchid Choice', 'Desha Suttu Kosha Odu', 'Chitra-Vichitra,' 'Vishaya Vishesha' and 'Phataphat'. Meghavi Manjunath from Quriosity Knowledge Solutions was the quizmaster.

'Phataphat' round had unexpected questions and students had ready answers.

However, the team from Brahmavara Little Rock Indian School landed negative marking for a wrong answer and this helped the winners leap forward.

Six teams which had won at the regional level in Bengaluru, Davangere, Hubballi, Mysuru, Bidar and Bagalkot entered the finals.

Though the team from Sishu Griha School missed out answering a few questions, they were quick enough to get more points by answering questions passed from other teams. The team was awarded with an attractive trophy, certificate and tabs.

Takshak Shetty and Srujan N Y of Little Rock Indian School, Brahmavara, Udupi (second prize), Trivikram Keshavan and Vishnu S Ganesh of Sishu Griha Senior School, Bengaluru (winners), Tejal Amaari and Sthuthi Raati of Basaveshwar International Public School, Bagalkot (third prize) at state-level Prajavani Quiz prize distribution ceremony in Bengaluru. The Printers (Mysore) Private Limited Director Sowbhagyalakshmi K T and music director Arjun Janya are seen.

ORCHIDS The International School
Presents
ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
QUIZ CHAMPIONSHIP
2025

Boy from audience steals limelight

Aarav from Sishu Griha Senior School stole the spotlight by answering three questions that were passed to audience. Aarav was rewarded for answering the maximum number of questions from the audience.

Loses mobile while travelling, wins new one

Srujan, from Brahmavara, who lost his mobile while travelling from his hometown to Bengaluru for the competition, was overwhelmed when he received a mobile phone as reward for securing the second prize.

THE WINNERS ARE...

First place
Sishu Griha Senior School, Bengaluru - Trivikram Keshavan and Vishnu S Ganesh

Second place
Little Rock Indian School, Brahmavara, Udupi - Takshak Shetty and Srujan N Y

Third place
Basaveshwar International Public School, Bagalkot- Tejal Amaari and Sthuthi Raati

Fourth place
S B R Public School, Kalaburagi- Basavaprasad Patil and M P Shreyas

Fifth place
Bapuji Higher Primary School, Davangere - Ishan S Bengeri and Chinmay R Kalal

Sixth place
Ramakrishna Vidyashala, Mysuru - Rishi Bhargav Shroff and Hiren B Rai

The students from Little Rock Indian School who were at the first position by the end of fourth round failed to regain the lead after a negative marking for a wrong answer. They were awarded with a trophy, certificate and a mobile phone.

At third place, Basaveshwar International Public School won a trophy, certificate and smart watch.

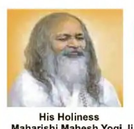
Director of The Printers (Mysore) Private Limited (TPML) Sowbhagyalakshmi K T and music director of the movie '45' Arjun Janya distributed the awards to winners.

Executive editor of Prajavani Ravindra Bhat, COO of TPML Kiran Sundar Rajan, region head of Orchids Manjula and D S Jayanth, director of Siddaganga PU College in Davangere were present.

Presented by Orchids, The International School, the event was supported by banking partner SBI, refreshment partner 'Mogu Mogu', special partner Bhima, and nutrition partner 'Nandini'.

Poorvika, VIPS, TalentSprint, ICS Mahesh PU College, Super Brain, Margadarshi, The Team Academy, IBMR, Mangalore PU College, Sharada Vidya Mandira and Asianet Suvarna News were the sponsors.

Avenues


His Holiness Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Ji

MAHARISHI VIDYA MANDIR
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOR BOYS & GIRLS
(website: www.maharishividyamandir.com)

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS IN MAHARISHI VIDYA MANDIR SCHOOLS AT KARNATAKA

Principal : Post Graduate with B.Ed. At least 8 years teaching experience in a recognized High School. Or 05 years' experience including 03 years educational administrative experience and 02 years teaching experience in a recognized High or Higher Secondary School.
ACCOUNTANT: M.Com/B.Com with knowledge of Tally latest version & MS Office software. Preferably two years or more experience.
Attractive salary and perks as per qualifications and experience.

Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview. Application with complete CV, recent passport size photograph should reach within 05 days from the date of publication at Email – mvmcareer@gmail.com.
Phone 0755-6767100

BANNARI AMMAN SUGARS LIMITED
1212, TRICHY ROAD, COIMBATORE - 641018, TAMILNADU

REQUIRES

Male candidates for the following posts for their Bannari Amman Agri Natural Fertilizer Unit for operation in all the Districts of Karnataka State.

- Regional Manager - Exp: 7 - 10 Years
- Marketing Development Officer - Exp: 2 - 5 Years
- Marketing Officer / Assistant Marketing Officer - Exp: Freshers (or) 1 - 2 Years

Qualification:

- B.Sc., (Agri.) / M.Sc., (Agri.) / B.Sc., (Horti.) / M.Sc., (Horti.) / B.Sc., (Botany) / MBA / Diploma (Agri. / Horticulture)
- Any Degree with Agro Marketing experience
- Reading & Writing in Kannada is essential.

Eligible candidates may send their resume within 7 days to the following e-mail ID. Short-listed candidates will be called for interview at our Bangalore Office.

Email: anfu@bannari.com Mob: 91593 22266 / 98422 13400
Web: www.bannarianfu.com

DEALERS MAY ALSO APPLY TO SELL OUR PRODUCTS IN ALL DISTRICTS OF KARNATAKA

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Rights repackaged, with conditions

The Union government, by introducing the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Bill, has repackaged the scale and scope of rural employment. This goes beyond a mere renaming of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The political idea in replacing the Mahatma with Ram in the nomenclature will not be missed, but what the Bill signals is a shift from a rights-based employment guarantee scheme to a centrally-controlled plan with limitations and conditionalities. MGNREGA was a game-changing scheme; a powerful, welfare-based governance model with poverty alleviation as the driving idea. The BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had criticised MGNREGA, but the Modi government retained the scheme, and has acknowledged that it provided wage support to rural households in the last two decades. It is being dismantled now.

In MGNREGA, the government provided the entire cost of wage payment and up to 75% of the material component outgo in the works. The new scheme proposes a 60:40 Centre-state fund-sharing pattern with some relaxation for the North-Eastern and Himalayan states. This will impose a substantial burden on states that are already financially stressed. It is estimated that the states will have to bear an additional Rs 50,000 crore as cost to run the scheme in its present size. It may create a situation where the scheme becomes unviable, with the states blamed for its non-implementation. The states may ask why they should provide 40% of the funds when the scheme is controlled by the Centre. In MGNREGA, the Central allocations depended on the states' estimates of the demand for work. While it made a statutory guarantee of work for those who demanded it, the proposed scheme empowers the government to decide the norms for employment and allocations. If the states decide to run an employment scheme on their own, the norms for that programme will also be decided by the Centre. If the Centre lays down a threshold in the poverty index as one of the criteria, some states which have performed better in poverty alleviation may find themselves excluded.

New bill may place states under financial stress, dilute right to employment

The Bill proposes to increase the number of guaranteed minimum workdays from 100 to 125. It could have been done by amending the existing law. With the conditionalities built into the design of the new scheme, it may not be possible to offer even 100 days' work. The move goes against federal principles and the idea that the right to work is basic and the government should honour it.

Farmer suicides: A fragile pause

The sharp decline in farmer suicides in Karnataka over the past two years is undeniably a welcome development. Data tabled in the legislative assembly shows that 377 farmers died by suicide in 2025-26 up to mid-November, a dramatic drop from 1,178 the previous year and 1,254 in 2023-24. For a state that has long carried the grim distinction of ranking second nationally in farmer suicides, any reduction deserves acknowledgement. It signals that some immediate pressures on rural households may have eased. The state government attributes this improvement largely to the success of its welfare schemes, stricter action against private moneylenders, and a more humane approach to loan recovery. These measures have indeed played a role. Direct cash transfers to rural families, easier access to low-interest institutional credit, delays in coercive recovery measures, and compensation of Rs 5 lakh to bereaved families have together created a temporary financial cushion. Favourable weather and timely sowing conditions have also helped stabilise farm incomes.

However, framing this decline as a straightforward success story of government schemes would be an oversimplification of a deeply complex problem. Agriculture contributes less than 15% of the Gross State Domestic Product, despite over 60% of the population relying on it for their livelihood. Northern districts, such as Kalaburagi, Belagavi, and Haveri, remain hotspots, reflecting long-standing regional vulnerabilities. More importantly, the current dip does not guarantee future safety. Agrarian distress in the state has always been cyclical, worsening sharply after droughts, floods, or market crashes. Temporary relief measures are largely shock absorbers, but do little to address structural weaknesses such as heavy dependence on rainfed agriculture, and volatile market prices. As farmer organisations have rightly pointed out, the continued failure to ensure remunerative and predictable prices, including meaningful implementation of the Swaminathan Committee recommendations, leaves farmers dangerously exposed.

Numbers drop in Karnataka; this could be the time to push long-term reforms

If Karnataka is serious about preventing a resurgence of suicides, it must use this phase of relative calm to push long-term reforms. Investment in irrigation and climate-resilient farming, expansion of post-harvest infrastructure like cold storage and improving market access are essential. Equally critical is reforming agricultural credit to reduce dependence on informal lenders and embedding mental health support within rural health systems. The recent decline should be read as a warning as much as a relief. It shows that distress can be reduced, but also that without structural change, it can return. The government should ensure that this moment becomes a turning point, not merely a pause in a long and tragic cycle.

DATA WITHOUT INSIGHT

Losing knowledge in pursuit of objectivity

The focus on measurable findings at the cost of context risks losing the qualitative meaning of research

NAVNEET SHARMA AND
P M GURUBASAVARAJ

In academic circles and the output of think tanks, one ideal is treated with almost unquestioned reverence: objectivity. Contemporary research culture prizes neutrality, measurement, and replicability above all else. We rely on datasets, statistical significance, and randomised controlled trials, convinced that by removing human influence, we are inching closer to an unimpeachable truth. Yet an uncomfortable paradox is becoming increasingly evident: in our relentless pursuit of perfect objectivity, we are gradually eroding a richer, more meaningful form of knowledge.

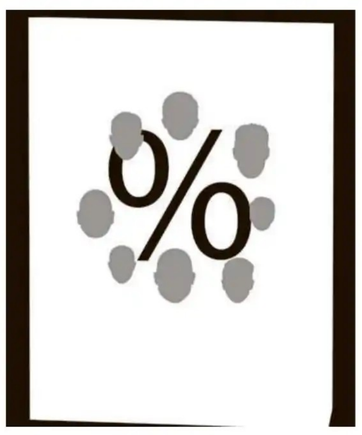
The heart of the issue lies in a widespread conflation of information with knowledge. Our digital era allows us to collect data on an unimaginable scale – terabytes of climate readings, sprawling health databases, and vast repositories of social metrics. We have perfected the art of accumulation. But information, no matter how abundant, is not the same as knowledge. Knowledge emerges when information is interpreted, contextualised, and transformed into insight. It is the capacity to pose meaningful questions, to discern subtle patterns, and to grapple with the broader implications of what data reveals.

This confusion is reflected in the structures that govern modern research. Funding agencies increasingly prioritise projects with clearly measurable outcomes, favouring the easily quantifiable over the intellectually ambitious. Journal impact factors – blunt, reductionist proxies for quality – often carry more weight than the originality or conceptual depth of the work they index. These incentives shape the kinds of research that are undertaken. Instead of encouraging bold, integrative inquiry, our system rewards the production of tidy, objective data points while discouraging exploration of complex, ambiguous, or fundamentally human questions. We risk perfecting the ability to map individual trees while losing sight of the forest's intricate, interconnected ecology.

Social Science, a modern discipline, is also an outcome of enlightenment, modern philosophy, and of an era where the empirical episteme reigned supreme and thus, this discipline was influenced by a philosophical system that held the scientific method as supreme. During the Enlightenment, the positivist paradigm of research, which rejected the theological and metaphysical viewpoint of the Middle Ages, established its foothold; it regards science as the sole means of discovering the truth about the world.

Social Science, which emerged during the late 19th century, was also influenced by this supremacy of science. Science, as a discipline, started directing and shaping the production of knowledge in social sciences, and the evaluative/outcome-oriented probing of immediate concerns in science started influencing social science research. The science paradigm espouses the employment of empirical explanation and method for all sorts of issues, whether physical or social.

According to this framework, universals about human behaviours can also be found if they are studied scientifically and objectively under a well-controlled environment using quantifiable observational techniques. The discipline of discoveries and inventions is expected to have an impact on the human world, but a discipline with concepts, constructs, and abstracts cannot have an impact straightaway; it casts an 'effect' on the human world and understanding.



What the numbers don't say

The consequences are especially visible in the social sciences. A rigorously designed quantitative study on poverty may yield flawless statistics on income distribution, educational attainment, or health disparities. Yet such information remains incomplete. It cannot express the daily anxiety of financial precarity, the psychological burden of marginalisation, or the gradual erosion of agency. These dimensions emerge through qualitative approaches – ethnography, narrative inquiry, and long-form interviews. Although sometimes dismissed as "soft" or insufficiently objective, such methods reveal lived realities and provide the interpretive depth required for humane and effective policy-making.

Even the natural sciences are not immune from the pitfalls of objectivity-worship. The pressure to present simple, unequivocal findings feeds into the replication crisis, encouraging researchers to tidy their results into more publishable forms. The reality of scientific discovery – the failed experiments, the intuitive leaps, the uncertain detours – is often absent from the final, polished article. In the pursuit of objectivity, we obscure the creative, iterative nature of science and replace it with a sanitised narrative of linear progress.

This critique is not an argument for abandoning rigour or ignoring bias. Methodological precision remains essential. But objectivity should not be treated as the only virtue worth pursuing. What we need is a research culture that embraces integration rather than exclusion. Social science research or social science education should be oriented/concerned with the 'impact' or 'effect' on making sense/adjustment with the world. We must appreciate the difference between impact and effect through the difference between 'measurability' and 'perceptibility'. Social Science research ought to evolve a different set of grammatology, vocabulary, and foundational bases for the concerns of 'validity' and 'legitimacy', as merely borrowing them from sciences would lead to a quantitative understanding of the human world, which will only be a partial story.

Moreover, in social sciences, research may not always be a process to produce 'new' knowledge; it can also be reapproaching the existing knowledge. The 'homogenising' of research as the only one decided and guided by the frame of scientific research will not take us any further.

Unpretentious understanding emerges from the interplay between quantitative and qualitative insight, between objective measurement and subjective interpretation. It requires valuing the synthesiser who weaves diverse findings into new frameworks as much as the specialist who generates the data. It demands collaboration with the humanities to interrogate the ethical, cultural, and societal ramifications of scientific advancement. The aim of research should not be sterile, detached neutrality, but a transparent, responsible pursuit of meaning. Researchers are not passive recorders of reality; they are interpreters. And the most profound knowledge is found not in isolated facts, but in the relationships among them. If we fail to rebalance our priorities, we may continue to produce mountains of objective data while losing the very understanding such data is meant to illuminate.

(Navneet teaches at the Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala; Gurubasavaraj teaches at Rani Channamma University, Belagavi)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

The sisterhood of the travelling sari

I thought its journey had ended. The sari had other plans

JAYANTHI CHANDRASEKARAN

The journey of a special sari began more than a decade ago, when my elder daughter was working in Malaysia. On one of her visits to Chennai, she ordered a bespoke designer sari. It was unlike the ones she had grown up seeing me wear — modern yet rooted, traditional yet stylish. She wore it to weddings, gatherings, and festive occasions, carrying a piece of India in foreign lands.

Over the years, the sari slowly found its way into my wardrobe. I inherited it almost by accident, left behind during one of her visits. I wore it on many occasions, savouring its rich hues and the delicate embroidery. Draped around me, it seemed less like clothing and more like a reminder of how threads of family connect generations, binding us no matter the distance.

I assumed the story of the sari would end there, nestled among my collection of heirlooms and occasional wears. But the sari had other plans. The other day, as I scrolled through photos from my younger daughter in Austin, Texas, I paused in surprise. There she was, smiling at a community event, wearing that sari — the very same one her sister had once chosen, and I had later cherished. I laughed out loud, marvelling at how this six-yard wonder had travelled more miles than many people do in a lifetime. From Chennai to Kuala Lumpur, from my own wardrobe in Bengaluru to the distant shores of Austin, the sari had journeyed without the hassle of a passport or visa.

What amused me was how each of us wore it so differently, and uniquely our own. On my elder daughter, it was a declaration of independence and a proud nod to her roots. On me, it was an embrace of continuity, a mother wearing her daughter's choice with quiet joy. And on my younger daughter, it carried an air of global belonging — an Indian sari blending effortlessly into Texan life.

In that moment, I realised that our "sisterhood of the travelling sari" is not about fashion, though the sari itself is undoubtedly beautiful. It was as if the sari had a will of its own, choosing not to remain with one person but to travel, adapt, and continue creating stories. It is about how objects gain meaning through relationships. It is about continuity amid change, about how something as simple as draped cloth can carry the warmth of shared history.

One day, perhaps, the sari will travel again. Maybe it will return to my elder daughter, or find its way into my granddaughter's trousseau. Wherever it goes, I know it will carry the laughter, love, and layered memories of three women across continents and generations. After all, a sari is never just six yards of fabric. For many women, it is a tapestry of memories, a bearer of stories, and a silent witness to the milestones of life.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The court ruling on Gandhis shines light on ED's overreach

The Delhi court's refusal to take cognisance of a complaint filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) alleging money laundering against Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in the *National Herald* case is a vindication of the Gandhis' consistent position on this matter. The court noted a recent FIR registered by the Delhi Police's Economic Offences Wing alleging cheating, criminal conspiracy, and related offences. Accordingly, it refrained from commenting on the merits of the case. The matter remains open. The court has held that the ED lacked jurisdiction, and the same reasoning applies to the agency's recent move to seize properties linked to Associated Journals Limited under the PMLA, which would also be legally flawed.
S K Choudhury, Bengaluru

Trapping the gullible

Apropos 'Cybercrimes continue to bleed B'luru...' (Dec 16), though the police force's cybercrime specialists have successfully arrested several scamsters who have swindled crores from citizens, the malaise continues unabated. More and more gullible citizens are being trapped in a maze of scams and are being robbed of their lifetime earnings and savings. Bogus investment schemes, digital arrests, and the elicitation of vital information under the guise of KYC are part of the modus operandi of criminals, including confidence tricksters, conmen, and even blackmailers. The RBI and the state and central governments should launch an all-out drive to keep citizens informed about the various methods criminals are adopting and to raise awareness that 'digital arrest' does not exist in the statute books.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Replacement politics

Apropos 'MGNREGA to go: Govt to bring in new rural job law' (Dec 16), the Modi government appears to be abolishing all projects named after Indian icons by the UPA government, with the content remaining the same and superficial changes here and there to claim to have effected change. There was no necessity of changing a scheme which stood in the name of the Father of the Nation. It will not be surprising if they replace currency notes featuring Gandhi's photo with those featuring other people.
T V Pandarinath Naidu, Kodagu

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

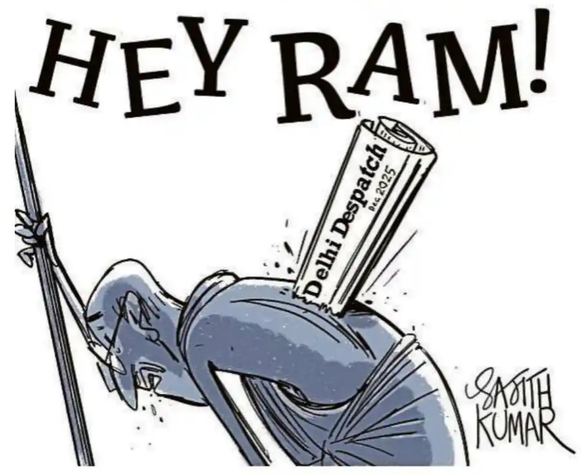
SPEAK OUT

The BJP doesn't indulge in proxy voting. Everything has been exposed regarding what's in the voter list in Bengal

Suvendu Adhikari,
BJP Leader, West Bengal

Guilt has very quick ears to an accusation
Henry Fielding

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

RBI's confidence, US Fed's caution

The rate cuts offer relief, but rupee volatility dominates market mood

T K JAYARAMAN

On December 5, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cut its policy interest rate, the repo, by 25 basis points from 5.5% to 5.25%. On December 10, the United States Federal Reserve reduced the upper bound of its policy rate from 4% to 3.75%, setting a new range, 3.5%-3.75%, by 25 basis points. Although the direction and magnitude of the two rate cuts were similar, the macroeconomic contexts of India and the US were quite different.

The RBI had maintained a tightened monetary stance with the repo rate at 6.5% for nearly two years (from May 2023 to February 2025) to contain global inflationary pressures. These pressures stemmed from pent-up demand during the brief recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, followed by disruptions from the Russia-Ukraine conflict in late 2022. As inflation began a steady decline from November 2024, reaching 3.61% in February 2025 – below the RBI's 4% target – the central bank initiated an easing cycle. The repo rate was reduced to 6.25% in February, 6% in April, and 5.5% in June. Inflation fell further, reaching just 0.25% in October.

However, rising capital outflows caused by uncertainty over trade relations with the US prompted the RBI to make what appeared to be a terminal cut to 5.25%. This decision was supported by strong economic growth, with GDP expanding by 7.8% and 8.2% in the first two quarters of FY2026. The rare combination of low inflation and high growth was the key reason for ending the easing cycle on December 5.

This year, the US economy has displayed resilience: a weak Q1 was followed by strong Q2 growth, with full-year GDP growth expected at ₹3%. The trade deficit narrowed significantly due to tariffs and rising exports, while the dollar index (DXY) fluctuated between 100 and 107 throughout the year, reflecting dollar strength against major currencies.

A six-week federal government shutdown during October and November disrupted the availability of reliable inflation and employment data. This data gap hindered the Fed's ability to make fully informed decisions. Relying mainly on September inflation figures and anecdotal evidence – while noting that unemployment data was 'overstated' – the Fed faced its dual mandate of keeping inflation below 2% and unemployment under 4%. With inflation at about 3% (slightly above the target of 2%) and unemployment at 4.3% (above the acceptable level), the Fed acted pragmatically. It cut interest rates by 25 basis points, lowering the federal funds range to 3.5%-3.75% from 3.75%-4%. The Fed also signalled a higher threshold for future cuts, projecting only one additional reduction in 2026.

Mixed implications

The size of the Fed rate cut is favourable to India, since the interest rate differential remains unchanged. However, uncertainty in US trade ties has continued to dominate, as there is no sign of any bilateral treaty in the air. Some expert opinions highlighted the potential for dollar softness, how lower US yields can redirect flows to emerging market economies, including India. However, they also warned about global growth uncertainty and currency volatility.

India's path is data-dependent: strong real growth prints and a softening inflation. Experts agree that India can ease gradually while guarding foreign exchange stability. The RBI's near-term focus remains on inflation pass-through from tariffs, imported price pressures, and liquidity management.

Capital outflows and corporate dollar demand are the most proximate pressures on the rupee. They cause volatility. The RBI's intervention in the exchange market is a familiar act, aimed at smoothening by selling dollars for rupees. In the process, the dollar depreciates, and the rupee appreciates. As rupee liquidity decreases, two independent reverse processes were introduced on December 5. One is short-term, confined to December 5 and 18: OMO purchase auctions of government securities, totalling Rs 1 lakh crore. The other is a $5-billion $/INR buy/sell swap auction, whose primary goal is to ensure banks have adequate rupee liquidity to meet rupee credit demand and to maintain the smooth functioning of financial markets.

A day after the US Fed reduction in its policy rate, the rupee fell to fresh lows, breaching the Rs 90-against-dollar mark. Reports suggest the RBI's intervention to moderate the slide, while the weakness was attributed to importer dollar demand and foreign outflows. This indicates a negative-to-flat bias until an India-US trade deal brightens up the scenario. Till then, the exchange rate volatility must be reduced with RBI intervention. India's foreign exchange reserves remain sound and secure. It was $687.26 billion as of the week ending December 12.

(The writer was a senior economist with the Asian Development Bank, Manila)

AI market turbulence: bubble or a correction?

CHIRAYU SHARMA AND JADHAV CHAKRADHAR

A sharp sell-off in global technology stocks has once again reignited the debate: is the artificial intelligence (AI) boom entering bubble territory, or is this correction simply a pause in an overheated market?

Over the past week, the major US indices have seen broad declines, with the Nasdaq falling sharply as mega-cap leaders Amazon, Microsoft, Nvidia, Meta, and Tesla lost between 2% and 5% from their highs. Even traditionally stable names such as Visa, JPMorgan, and Home Depot joined the downturn, reflecting a wider shift in market sentiment.

At the centre of this pullback is a growing fear that AI has crossed into speculative excess. Bank of America's latest global fund manager survey shows that 45% of investors cite an AI bubble as the biggest market risk, while more than half believe valuations have already stretched beyond fundamentals. This points to unusually large capital flows, multi-trillion-dollar deal activity, and an investment cycle that resembles previous periods of market mania. The question now is whether this marks the beginning of an actual bubble or merely a healthy correction in an overheated market.

The conversation around an "AI bubble" has intensified because the technology sits at the intersection of unprecedented hype, rapid valuation expansion, and massive capital inflows. Markets are pricing not just current capability but a sweeping transformation that has yet to fully materialise. This mismatch between soaring expectations and still-maturing infrastructure has created pockets of excess, where optimism runs ahead of operational reality. These pressures together form the conditions often mistaken for a bubble — though the underlying story is far more complex.

The parallels are uncomfortable. Today's "Magnificent Seven" — Nvidia, Microsoft, Apple, Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, and Tesla — now command a market capitalisation greater than the entire Chinese economy. This concentration of value and the "this time is different" narrative are classic hallmarks of a bubble. However, a critical distinction lies in the fundamentals: profitability. During the dot-com bubble, companies with little more than a ".com" in their name achieved staggering valuations despite having no path to profit. Today's AI giants are profoundly different. While AI stock prices have appreciated strongly, this has been matched by sustained earnings growth, not mere speculation.

The valuation metrics confirm this. The median forward price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio for the Magnificent Seven is around 27. This is nearly half the median valuation of top tech stocks during the 2000 bubble. The current tech leaders are cash-generating behemoths, not speculative startups.

The more compelling argument against a dot-com repeat lies in a growing industry crisis: a severe infrastructure bottleneck. The problem is no longer whether there is demand for AI — demand is overwhelming — but whether the physical world can supply the power and computing capacity to meet it.

This market fall stems from a fundamental misunderstanding of treating AI as traditional software. Unlike static code, AI is a dynamic, energy-intensive industrial process that generates intelligence in real time. The core challenge is not vanishing demand, but a severe physical supply crunch — a struggle to secure the vast computational power and energy required to meet explosive, contract-backed demand. This is not a speculative bubble deflating, but a market confronting the hard physical realities of a new industrial age.

The real risk is structural. AI behaves like an energy-intensive industry, where every improvement increases total consumption — a modern echo of Jevons' paradox. Any correction ahead is more likely to come from power constraints, grid stress, or delayed chip capacity, not a collapse in demand.

The next AI phase will not be defined by who can spend the most, but by who can execute through constraint. Evidence abounds: AI-cloud company Coreweave, despite a revenue backlog that nearly doubled to $55.6 billion, recently slashed its 2025 capital expenditure guidance by up to 40%, citing delayed power infrastructure. Similarly, Oracle is sitting on a $455 billion revenue backlog but is "still waving off customers" due to capacity shortages.

This "backlog paradox" — where firms have customers, capital, and contracts, but cannot deploy infrastructure fast enough — is triggering a market reassessment. Investors are realising that the AI gold rush's timeline is being set not by software engineers, but by the pace of building power grids and data centres.

For investors, the priority now is to separate hype from substance. The sell-off is filtering out companies whose AI ambitions lack real business fundamentals, making it essential to focus on firms with strong earnings, clear monetisation strategies, and steady cash flows. While the "Magnificent Seven" dominate headlines, the real opportunities may lie in the infrastructure enablers of AI — power utilities, semiconductors, data-centre developers, and cooling technologies. Above all, a long-term view is crucial. Like the early internet, AI will see phases of excess and correction, but the structural shift is undeniable. Investors who stay selective and patient are best positioned to benefit from the next leg of this transformation.

The current turmoil looks far more like a necessary reset than the start of an AI collapse. Unlike the dot-com era, where belief evaporated overnight, today's challenge is execution, not demand. AI's foundations remain solid, its applications are expanding, and the physical constraints slowing its growth underline its real-world scale. Corrections remove excess — they don't erase transformative technologies. The real question for the investors is whether they have the patience to stay invested as this revolution matures.

(Chirayu Sharma is an independent researcher based in Pune. Jadhav Chakradhar is an assistant professor, Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad)

Beijing is pouring vast resources into fusion research, while the US wants private industry to lead the way. The winner could reshape civilisation

RAYMOND ZHONG, CHRIS BUCKLEY, KEITH BRADSHER AND HARRY STEVENS

A Chinese lab's fusion research facility under construction. CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

China's big bet to harness clean, limitless energy

On a leafy campus in eastern China, crews are working day and night to finish a mammoth round structure with two sweeping arms the length of aircraft carriers.

On former rice fields in the country's southwest, a hulking, X-shaped building is being built with equal urgency under great secrecy. That facility's existence wasn't widely known until researchers spotted it in satellite images a year or so ago.

Together, the colossal projects are China's most ambitious efforts yet to harness an energy source that could transform civilisation: fusion.

Fusion, the melding together of atoms to release extraordinary energy, uses plentiful fuels, carries no risk of meltdowns and leaves no long-lived radioactive waste. It promises near-limitless energy that might not only satisfy the surging demand for electricity to power artificial intelligence but also end reliance on the fossil fuels that are perilously overheating the planet.

Scientists first mused about fusion, the energy of the stars, a century ago. In recent decades, they have made significant strides toward reproducing the process in the laboratory using magnets and lasers. Yet forcing unruly atoms to combine is vastly more difficult than splitting them, as in the fission process that produces nuclear power today.

A fusion reactor must first heat hydrogen to temperatures hotter than the sun, turning it into plasma, the fourth state of matter. Then it needs to hold this violent plasma together for long enough that the atoms fuse and disgorge energy. China, the United States and other countries are now racing to develop the machines that can pull all this off and survive to do it again and again, reliably enough to power a grid.

The world's two superpowers are in a tightening contest to dominate the energy future. Under the Trump administration, the U.S. is intent on producing oil, gas and coal and selling it abroad. Its chief economic rival, China, has become the world's dominant supplier of clean energy in the form of solar panels, batteries and electric vehicles.

Fusion could change the calculus for both nations and the globe. Whoever conquers it could build plants worldwide and forge new alliances with energy-hungry countries. But the Americans and the Chinese have very different strategies for getting there.

The United States is counting on private industry and American innovation to deliver results, with government agencies providing targeted support. From coast to coast, a fleet of startups has brought new urgency and ingenuity to the quest.

On the other side of the world, China's government has made fusion a national priority, marshalling resources at a daunting speed. Recently, a Shanghai startup essentially matched an engineering breakthrough by America's best-funded fusion company, Commonwealth Fusion Systems, in much less time. Over the summer, the Chinese government and private investors poured $2.1 billion into a new state-owned fusion company. That investment alone is 2 1/2 times the US Department of Energy's annual fusion budget.

The two countries' progress could soon be tested head-to-head.

Commonwealth says that by 2027, the experimental device it is building in Massachusetts will pull off a key feat: producing more energy than it takes to run. That would be a signal that fusion could someday generate electricity for data centers, steel mills and more.

China's leading plasma-physics lab is aiming for its new machine, which has the modest name of BEST and will sit in the twin-armed building in the country's east, to cross that milestone in the next few years, too.

China's commitment to science and fusion comes from the very top.

The government's new five-year plan, covering 2026 through 2030, promises "extraordinary measures" to secure breakthroughs in fusion energy and other areas. China's state-owned nuclear company is preparing detailed fusion research proposals, calling it "the main racetrack in future scientific and technological competition among the great powers."

The country was a minnow in fusion only two decades ago, and it grew by teaming up with other nations. It worked closely with France to develop its most modern tokamak, a type of doughnut-shaped fusion machine. It became a key contributor to the 33-nation ITER fusion experiment (pronounced "eater"). During much of the past decade, American and Chinese researchers conducted joint experiments and extolled their nations' "long-term friendship" in plasma physics.

Now, Chinese labs and companies are pouring concrete for cutting-edge research facilities of their own. The Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Plasma Physics is building both the new BEST tokamak and a nearby 100-acre complex where researchers will develop and test components for operation under the extreme conditions of a fusion device. Scientists there are also sketching out another tokamak that would power a pilot fusion plant in the 2030s and '40s.

Richard Pitts, a British-French physicist at ITER, visited the BEST site in January last year, when it was little more than an empty platform. Today, it's half finished.

China has learned a great deal from its participation in ITER, and now it is applying that knowledge to advance its own work, Pitts said. Even if the core technology works, however, fusion reactors won't power the world until companies figure out how to build and operate them affordably and at an industrial scale.

And on that front, China's expertise in engineering and construction gives it a distinct advantage, said Jimmy Goodrich, a senior fellow at the University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation. "The risk for the United States is we create a viable technical pathway first, but then China engineers and scales it up before we can," Goodrich said.

Recently, the Commonwealth got a glimpse at how quickly China is moving.

Last year, scientists with the company published academic papers describing one of their biggest accomplishments: the enormous, D-shaped magnets that will sit inside its new tokamak in Massachusetts. They are made of materials that conduct electricity with exceptionally low resistance, enabling them to generate strong magnetic fields.

Then, this past summer, scientists at a Shanghai startup, Energy Singularity, published a paper on their own very similar magnet.

To Dennis Whyte, a Commonwealth cofounder, this was no mere feat of reverse engineering. Mobilising the supply chains and manufacturing expertise needed to build and test such a magnet so quickly showed "really amazing skill," Whyte said.

In the southwest, another front in China's fusion ambitions is racing ahead with much less public fanfare.

Scientists at the China Academy of Engineering Physics, in Sichuan province, studied attentively as their counterparts at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California toiled for years before achieving a tantalising demonstration of fusion's potential. In late 2022, the lab's lasers caused a pellet of hydrogen to "ignite," meaning the reaction produced more energy than the lasers provided.

A senior scientist at China's academy quickly called for his country to follow suit.

Livermore's achievement marked "a major scientific breakthrough that will be memorialised in the annals of human history," Zheng Wanguo said in an interview in early 2023. China, he said, should "strengthen investment and research" in fusion energy, "taking laser fusion ignition as the main technical approach."

Within a year and a half, an enormous X-shaped facility had arisen outside the city of Mianyang.

Chinese laser industry reports, scientific papers and a patent application suggest the site will house Shenguang IV, a new laser ignition facility. Proposals for such a facility, whose name means "Divine Light," go back in some form over 15 years. But the Livermore lab's success seemed to put it on the fast track.

In recent months, the Academy of Engineering Physics has revealed plans to build another laser ignition facility in Chengdu, Sichuan's provincial capital — a smaller, more commercial sibling to the one in Mianyang.

And Peng Xianjue, once an anonymous weapons designer, has transformed himself into an energy entrepreneur, promoting his vision for an untested reactor that would combine fusion and fission. China, Peng wrote in a proposal this year, should "aim for commercial application by 2040."

The New York Times

The many shades of snobbery

MATHEW C NINAN

The world has changed dramatically over the last few decades, so much so that people in their 60s and 70s often marvel at the enormity of this transformation. Perhaps no generation has witnessed such sweeping socio-economic and political change as today's senior citizens.

The journey from no telephones to trunk-call bookings to mobile phones has been extraordinary. From radio to smart TVs, typewriters to laptops, bicycles to electric cars, letterpress to offset printing—and, above all, the rise of the internet—the changes of the last fifty years feel almost miraculous. Life has undoubtedly become easier, faster, and more comfortable.

But is that all? Has progress come without cost?

When one reflects on the impact of prosperity and modernity, some disquieting aspects emerge. One of the most visible consequences is the rise of a consumerist culture, particularly among Gen Z and millennial parents. There is an insatiable urge to accumulate possessions. Human wants appear endless; another replaces one desire, often driven not by need or satisfaction, but by the desire to impress others. This paradox lies at the heart of modern consumerism.

This mindset has revived an old and uncomfortable word: snobbery. Snobbery is not merely pride in one's possessions; it involves condescension and contempt toward those perceived as belonging to a lower social stratum. This attitude makes it deeply antisocial and objectionable.

The nouveau riche often exemplify this tendency. Having emerged from poverty, they feel compelled to announce their newfound wealth. They purchase items far beyond their practical needs, not for utility but for display. Their aim is acceptance among the upper classes, achieved through conspicuous consumption.

The problem deepens when such behaviour is passed on to the next generation. Children may ignore advice, but they rarely fail to imitate their parents' attitudes. Snobbish parents inevitably raise children who absorb the same values.

Large cars, lavish homes, expensive gadgets, designer clothes, and branded items become markers of status. Flaunting wealth becomes a means of feeding vanity. Children raised in this environment often exhibit troubling behaviour. They may dominate peers and believe their parents' wealth grants them special privileges.

This leads to a strong sense of entitlement. Such children expect preferential treatment everywhere and are shocked when reality pushes back. Society eventually labels them as "spoilt children," not because of inherent flaws, but because they have been raised in a pretentious and unrealistic environment.

Louis J. Lichtman, author of A Practical Guide for Raising a Self-Directed and Caring Child, aptly observes: "You do your kids a terrible disservice if they go out into the world thinking that it revolves around them."

Teachers frequently encounter children with snobbish attitudes but find it difficult to engage their parents. These parents often justify their children's behaviour, defending the very attitudes they themselves have instilled. Thus, the cycle continues.

If prosperity has inflicted one major harm on society, it is the normalisation of snobbery. It has come to be seen as a privilege, overshadowing compassion and respect for the less fortunate, masquerading as a virtue.

Technology has further contributed to this erosion. While it has connected us globally, it has also distanced us emotionally. Gen Z often connects more with strangers online than with people around them. Relationships, empathy, and respect have begun to suffer.

Parents and teachers must consciously counter this trend. Teaching children that "everybody deserves respect" should be a central value, both at home and in schools. Parents, in particular, must avoid excessive permissiveness that unintentionally spoils children.

Psychologists caution against the term "spoilt child," but agree that permissive parenting can lead to traits such as poor self-control, aggression, self-centredness, impulsivity, rebellion, and domineering behaviour.

A striking example was reported when a 22-year-old man pushed a brand-new BMW into a river because he wanted a Jaguar instead. This occurred in India, where, according to NITI Aayog (2023), more than 11% of the population lives below the multidimensional poverty line. The contrast is sobering.

Corrective measures are possible at every age—but the earlier they begin, the better.

(The writer is director, Little Rock, Udupi)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: DECEMBER 1975

Mirage unit for Pak: France scotches report

New Delhi, December 16.
French Foreign Trade Minister Norbert Segard today denied that France had any intention of setting up a Mirage aircraft complex in Pakistan. The French Minister's statement made during his meeting with Minister for Defence Production R. N. Mirdha is the first such direct denial of the reports that France would set up facilities for production of Mirages in Pakistan. During their discussions, Mr. Mirdha invited the attention of Mr. Segard to the press reports regarding setting up of a factory in Pakistan.

25 YEARS AGO: DECEMBER 2000

VRS for govt staff: PM

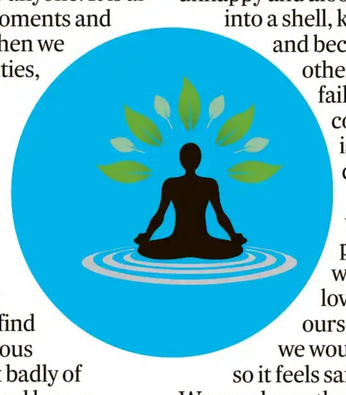
New Delhi, Dec 16.
The Centre will consider formulating a voluntary retirement scheme (VRS) for reducing government jobs by 10% by 2004, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee announced here today. "We have received recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission. It has given specific suggestions to reduce staff size and how to treat surplus staff," he said while inaugurating the 73rd annual session of the FICCI here. Pointing out that the non-productive expenditure of the government was linked with downsizing, he said, "we need to announce a timetable and set milestones".

OASIS | LEELA RAMASWAMY

The art of loving yourself

In one of his books, the well-known spiritual guide, Robin Sharma, says, *'It is only when you have mastered the art of loving yourself that you can truly love others.'* This proposition sounds preposterous. It seems to be an invitation to be self-serving and selfish. To be intent on one's own fulfilment and pleasure does seem to be the very antithesis of being kind and compassionate. It heightens self-importance and places one at the centre of the universe.

The thinking individual, however, will grasp its meaning. Many of us inadvertently create stress in our lives by underestimating ourselves. Life is never a bed of roses for anyone. It is always a mix of happy moments and sad or painful ones. When we face sadness or difficulties, we rely on others to guide us.



We lose confidence in ourselves and seek acknowledgement, acceptance and approval from others. When this is forthcoming, we enjoy it, but when we do not find sympathy, we feel anxious and stressed. We think badly of those who criticise us and become unhappy and aloof. We withdraw into a shell, keep to ourselves, and become hostile toward others' suffering. We fail to understand that confidence in oneself is an inside job. How do we achieve this?

We see things as they are. There is pain, there is loss, but we manage to send love and kindness to ourselves. We do it as we would for a crying baby, so it feels safe and comforted. We now learn that others, too, feel the same when they are confronted with pain and sadness. We experience openness and a connection with others. We are not apart from others; we are a part of them.

The human being is described as a social animal. Indeed, a human baby is entirely dependent on others for survival. We may outgrow this phase, but all our lives, we look to others for affirmation and encouragement. Love for others demands reflection and practice, but once it gains ground, it exhilarates and grows. As John Donne put it, 'No man is an island, entire of itself...' To sum up, if you genuinely love yourself, you will love others.

Supplementary Budget: Govt seeks Assembly nod for 6,280 cr

Rs 434 cr allocated for central road and infrastructure fund

BELAGAVI, DHNS

The state government on Tuesday sought the Legislative Assembly's approval for a supplementary budget of Rs 6,280 crore to meet the demands of various departments.

Of this, the state government will spend Rs 3,421 crore towards demands raised by the departments, while Rs 2,240 crore has been covered under central assistance (total go out from the consolidated fund is Rs 5,661 crore). Then, Rs 618 crore is met out of the Reserved Funds.

Road infrastructure

Of these, most of the funds have been sought towards road works and financial assistance towards sugarcane farmers of the state.

While the state government has allocated Rs 434 crore towards central road and infrastructure fund, it has set aside Rs 300 crore towards the financial assistance of sugarcane farmers at Rs 50 per quintal, when supplied to sugar companies in Karnataka.

More interestingly, it has sought the legislature permission for an expenditure of Rs 6.4 crore incurred, and possible future expenditure, towards helicopter travel of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot.

Alongside this, Rs 11.6 crore has been allocated for the purchase of 71 vehicles, including 12 mini buses for various department officials, chief minister's office personnel and Karnataka Lokayukta officials.

The government has also allocated Rs 14.5 crore as expenditure towards the ongoing Winter Session of the Legislature in Belagavi and another Rs 2 crore for coverage of the legislature proceedings.

The supplementary estimates include the travel expenditures incurred by the Legislative Assembly Speaker U T Khader and Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti of Rs 1 crore each during the 68th commonwealth parliamentary association (CPA) conference, apart from Rs 3.6 crore towards the 11th CPA conference.

In other expenditures, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has sought approval of the House for Rs 14 crore towards Bengaluru smart energy efficient power distribution to be considered as part of the money released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the same.

The estimates also claimed Rs 23.5 crore towards the grand celebration of Mysuru Dasara and another Rs 50 lakh for Tumakuru Dasara.

The government has also allotted Rs 10 crore for an upcoming trip of the Karnataka delegation to attend the world economic forum at Davos in Switzerland.

BJP, Cong members spar over 'loud Azaan from mosques'

Khandre's 'Deepavali firecrackers' analogy triggers Oppn

BELAGAVI, DHNS

A question by BJP's D S Arun on controlling the use of loudspeakers exceeding the decibel limit during 'Azaan' in mosques led to heated arguments between the ruling and opposition members in the Council.

In reply, Minister for Forests, Ecology and Environment Eshwar Khandre said during Deepavali, firecrackers and loudspeakers also produced excessive noise and that unnecessary politics was being done in the matter. This triggered BJP members and led to an argument.

Explaining the issue, Arun said that no one dared to complain about the disturbance caused by 'Azaan', because they had government support.

"For the past two-and-a-half years, there has been government support," the BJP member alleged.

Congress members came out in support of the minister and condemned the BJP member's statement.

Sensing the seriousness of the matter, Chairman Basavaraj Horatti advised the minister to answer only the questions raised by members and not bring up other matters.

Finally, Khandre said an order had already been issued by the environment department that all mosques/madrasas/dargahs should use loudspeakers only between 6 am and 10 pm.

He said that a committee had been formed to check the licences of loudspeakers used during 'Azaan'.

52 complaints filed

In the last three years, 52 complaints had been received that the decibel level of speakers was high during 'Azaan'.

Officials of the Pollution Control Board had inspected 51 places and violations were found in 26 places, the minister informed.

In total, sound level tests were conducted in 126 places and in 97 places, it was found that the sound limit of the loudspeakers had been exceeded, he said.

Arun said that in and around his house in Shivamogga, people were unable to sleep in the early morning hours due to the loud 'Azaan'.

"My 86-year-old father wakes up due to 'Azaan' in the mosque and finds it difficult to sleep again and it is a daily pain for us. No one dares to complain about this. If anyone tells the authorities that this is causing disturbance, the authorities request the mosques to reduce the loudspeaker volume, instead of taking legal action," he charged.

Minister calls for regulation of portable ultrasound scanning machines

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Tuesday called for regulation of portable ultrasound scanning machines.

Replying to a question by BJP MLC C T Ravi on female foeticides in the Legislative Council, the minister said that despite various regulations, technology was helping people determine the sex of an unborn child.

"We have even requested the Union government to regulate the use of portable ultrasound machines, which can be carried by hand and scans conducted," he added.

The minister admitted that the female foeticide is not prevented. The portable ultrasound is being misused to determine the sex of the unborn child and there is a need to control it."

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao speaks in the Legislative Council on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/RANJU P

The minister informed the House that the government had appointed a separate nodal officer at every district and was also monitoring the hospitals where more male children had been born. "In the last two-and-a-half-years, seven sex determination cases were registered. Legal action will be initiated in such cases," he added.

Meanwhile, Ravi opined that retaining the Bhagyalakshmi scheme for girl children, which was introduced by BJP government, would have helped in preventing female foeticide.

"People are even using social media platforms to get in touch with those conducting sex determination tests. There is a need for a stronger regulation," he mentioned.

As provided in the reply, in the last two years, three cases were registered - one each from Bengaluru Rural (now North), Mandya and Bengaluru Urban districts, and 13 people arrested in this regard.

EC publishes Bengal SIR draft rolls; over 58 lakh voters deleted

Bengal, From Page 1

Adhikari on Tuesday said that the SIR of the electoral rolls had effectively eliminated the vote difference between the TMC and the BJP in West Bengal.

Abhishek Banerjee, the TMC general secretary, said that the TMC would secure more seats and votes than its 2021 score, notwithstanding the SIR.

Of the 58,20,898 deletions, 24,16,852 voters were marked by the EC as dead, while another 19,88,076 as permanently shifted, and 12,20,038 as missing or untraceable. Another 1.38 lakh voters were identified as having duplicate entries, while 1,83,328 names were flagged as so-called 'ghost' voters. Over 57,000 names were deleted under other discrepancies detected during enumeration.

The EC, however, is also likely to summon nearly 1.36 crore voters for hearings, Manoj Agarwal, the Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal, said.

The ones who will be summoned for hearings include not only the people challenging the deletion of their names from the electoral rolls, but also the ones still on the draft rolls but have logical discrepancies in their enumeration forms.

Besides, nearly 85 lakh voters, who submitted enumeration forms during the SIR with name mismatches with the 2002 list, would also be summoned.

The ruling TMC said that the draft electoral rolls published dismissed the claim of Adhikari and other BJP leaders that the state's electoral roll had "one crore illegal migrants from Bangladesh and Rohingyas from Myanmar".

The ruling party pointed out that only 1,83,328 voters had been identified as dubious. The BJP, however, said that it was just the beginning and that it would soon be proved that the TMC had been winning the elections in the state, largely due to the support from the illegal migrants, whom it had helped settle in West Bengal after crossing over to India from Myanmar or Bangladesh.

MLAs frown upon difficulty in understanding Bills

They must be drafted in simple Kannada, says Aravind Bellad

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Lawmakers, cutting across party lines, asked the government to simplify the language used in Bills to help citizens understand legislation.

"We don't understand this Bill," Deputy Leader of the Opposition Aravind Bellad said in the Legislative Assembly, referring to the Karnataka Rent (Amendment) Bill.

"I have heard there is only one person in the Law Department who drafts Bills in Kannada. No one, even the chief minister, understands this man's Kannada. Bills must be drafted in simple Kannada," Bellad said.

Senior BJP lawmaker S Suresh Kumar, a former law and parliamentary affairs minister, said the Bills are first drafted in English and translated into Kannada later.

"Before Bills are introduced in the Assembly, please put them in the public domain. Many MLAs are not experts in legalese," Kumar said.

"If a Bill is put in the public domain, experts can tell us the pros and cons. I think this is the need of the hour. After a Bill is approved by the Cabinet, make it public," he said.

Senior Congress lawmaker Basavaraj Rayareddi, the chief minister's economic advisor, rued that Bills were being translated into Kannada using Google. "Proper translators must be hired," he said.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda concurred with the concerns. "The language of Bills is very difficult for commoners to understand. Legalese is difficult to understand for MLAs, too. We'll see what can be done," he said.

'MLAs lack interest'

Speaker U T Khader blamed the MLAs for lacking interest in understanding Bills.

"When I became the Speaker, I arranged for officials to be available for MLAs to understand Bills. But few MLAs came seeking explanations," he said. "First, MLAs must be interested in Bills."

Opposition uproar...

Bill, From Page 1

Opposition MPs Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, TR Baalu, KC Venugopal, Dharmendra Yadav, Shashi Tharoor, NK Premachandran and Saugata Ray raised objection at the introduction stage itself citing a variety of reasons.

There was action outside as well. Opposition MPs held a march to the Gandhi Statue in Parliament House complex after the Bill was introduced in the Lower House.

Opposition MPs demanded that the Bill be sent to a Standing Committee for further parliamentary scrutiny.

Recalling the bipartisan support for MGNREGA attracted in Parliament, Priyanka claimed that the new Bill weakens the rural job scheme, which was demand-driven, while the new draft makes it supply-driven, impacting the rural economy.

She also referred to the change in the funding pattern, with states now being proposed to bear the burden of 40% expenditure. Objecting to the change in name and removal of mention of Mahatma Gandhi, she said, she does not understand the obsession with changing names of schemes.

Senior Congress MP KC Venugopal warned Chouhan that he would be remembered as the minister who removed the name of Mahatma Gandhi from the Bill.

Calling the removal of the Mahatma's name a "deeply regrettable and retrograde step", Tharoor said this was "not merely an administrative tweak but an assault on the very spirit and philosophical foundation of this crucial programme".

He said Gandhi's vision of Ram Rajya was "never a purely political project" as it was a "socio-economic blueprint rooted in the empowerment of villages" and his unwavering faith in Gram Swaraj was central to that vision. "Ram ka naam badnaam mat karo. (Don't sully Lord Ram's name)," he said.

"We must also seriously question the financial restructuring proposed in the bill. The proposal to impose 40% of the financial burden directly on state governments is not merely fiscally irresponsible and it is a measure that threatens to make the entire programme unviable," he said.

Govt offices get hoax bomb mails

KARWAR/TUMAKURU, DHNS: The tahsildar's offices in Karwar and Bhatkal and the deputy commissioner's office in Tumakuru received e-mails of bomb threats on Tuesday.

All the three mails were sent by a common ID and claimed "revenge from Tamilians and Pakistanis." However, a thorough search of the premises established the threat to be a hoax one. Police personnel, bomb disposal squad and dog squad were pressed into service. Uttara Kannada Superintendent of Police Deepan M N said that no explosives were found during the search.

BANGALORE CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Shanthinagar Division, P.U. Building, 9th Floor, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560 001

No.EE/SN/TEND/14/2025-26 Date: 16.12.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal)

The Executive Engineer (Shanthinagar Division), BCCC, Bangalore on behalf of the Commissioner, BCCC invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bangalore Central City Corporation for the Maintenance of works detailed in the table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for works given in the table through procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka **(viz https://.kppp.gov.in).** The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract (Standard Tender Document-K/W-2/3). **2.**Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPPP portal of the Government of Karnataka . **3.**Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **16.00 hours on 24.12.2025**. **4.** Other details can be seen in the tender document.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work/Approximate value of work (Rs in Lakhs)/ EMD amount in Rs.
	Ward No : Old : 111, New : 167
1	Emergency Work including Mojo Barricade, Umbrella Point, Police chowky, Watch tower, Women Safety Island & Public Address System for Celebration of New Year 2026 Dated: 31-12-2025 at Shanthingara Division.Approximate Value of work : **Rs. 20.00 Lakhs,** EMD (in Rupees): **50,000/-.**
2	Emergency works In Preparation of Ground for Celebration of Republic Day 26-01-2026 at Manikshaw Parade Ground Bangalore in ward no 167, Ashoknagara For the year 2025-26. Approximate Value of work : **Rs. 27.90 Lakhs ,** EMD (in Rupees): **69,750/-.**

1) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **24/12/2025 upto 4.00 p.m.**
2) Date of Opening of Tenders is on **26/12/2025 upto 11.30 a.m.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shanthinagar Division.

KELADI SHIVAPPA NAYAKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES.
Office of Estate Officer, Main Premises, Iruvakki 577412, Shivamogga District
Ph.No :**9480838979**, E-mail: **eo@uahs.edu.in**

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕೆಶಿನಾಕೃತೋವಿವಿ(ಶಿ)/ಆ.ಅ/ಡಿ.ಬಿ/ಟಿ.ಎನ್-15/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 12.12.2025

Tender Notification
(Through e-procurement portal only)

Sub: Providing security personnel and cleaning staff to the Colleges and Research Centers under the jurisdiction of Keladi Shivappanayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga.

Tenders have been invited from eligible companies and agencies to provide security personnel and cleaning staff to the Colleges and Research Centers under the jurisdiction of Keladi Shivappanayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga. Tender notification, schedule and tender details are available on website : **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** EMD shall be paid by e-payment mode through e-procurement portal.

Tender schedule dates are as follows:
1. Pre-bid meeting date and time : **29.12.2025 at 11.00 A M**
2. Last date and time for submission of tender : **07.01.2026 upto 4.00 P M. 3.** Date and time of opening of technical bid : **08.01.2026 at 4.30 P M. 4.** Date and time of opening of financial bid : **12.01.2026 at 10.00 A M.**

Details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours. and on all working days contact Estate Officer, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakki, Sagar Taluk, Shivamogga- 577412. Ph: No. 9480838979.

Sd/-
Estate Officer, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakki, Shivamogga

DIPR/SMG/No- 68-12/ zenkar/2025-26

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 7/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-12-2025

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:-ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 24/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:27.11.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ 8443 ತೇವಣಿ ವಂತಿಕೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 2 (ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗ), ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವಾಗಿ 18.12.2025 ಎಂದು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದಿನಾಂಕ:24.12.2025 ಎಂದು ಮರು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉಳಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ (ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
Phone & Fax : 0836-2747944, Email.ID :eepwddha@gmail.com

ಕ್ರಸಂ : ಕಾನಿಇಂಧಾ/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/ಪಿ.ಬಿ.,4/2025-26/ 4396 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16-12-2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ - I.F.T – KW –4
ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-4 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. (kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ. **146.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ. **240.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ, 2059-80-053-4-00-200 & 2216-07-053-0-01-200,5 ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಬರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	
1) PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT27827	2) PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT27922

Calander of Events : (1) ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ-ಸಂದೇಹ / ಪ್ರಿ-ಬಿಡ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **24-12-2025** (ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 12:30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ) (2) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **26-12-2025** (ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ) (3) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **29-12-2025** (ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16:30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ) (4) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **30-12-2025** (ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16:30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ)

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲ ವಿಳಾಸ http://www.kppp.karnataka,gov.in ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಲೋಕೊಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/992/2025-26

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal)

The Chief Engineer Ele., O&M Zone, BESCOM, Chitradurga invites tender for providing Street Light/ Metering along with Timer Switch in Rural areas under partial turnkey basis (ACSR Rabbit Conductor will be supplied by the BESCOM) on item wise fixed rate contract on percentage quoting basis in CTAZ, Bescom, Chitradurga.

Enq. No's for SC category	Enq. No's for ST category	Enq. No's Category-1	Enq. No's for Category-IIA	Enq. No's for Others
BESCOM/ 2025-26/ EL/WORK_ INDENT 652, 661, 666, 667 & 669	BESCOM/ 2025-26/ EL/WORK_ INDENT 655	BESCOM/ 2025-26/ EL/WORK_ INDENT 651	BESCOM/ 2025-26/ EL/WORK_ INDENT 658, 671, 673 & 675	BESCOM/2025-26/EL/ WORK_INDENT 650, 653, 654, 656, 657, 659, 660, 662, 663, 664, 665, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 677, 649, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682 & 683

Time Schedule: Availability of Bid documents: 19.12.2025 @ 17:00 Hrs onwards. **Pre-Bid meeting:** 24.12.2025 @ 11:00 Hrs. **Last date for submission of Queries:** 29.12.2025 before 17:00 Hrs. **Last date for bid submission:** 03.01.2026 @ 17:00 Hrs. **Opening of Technical Bids:** 05.01.2026 @ 11:00 Hrs. **Venue:** Office of the Chief Engineer (Ele), O&M Zone, BESCOM, Turuvanur Road, Opp. RTO Office, Chitradurga.

The bid documents can be downloaded and necessary assistance can be obtained through the KPP portal from the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

E-procurement Help Desk: Phone No: +91-8046010000, +91-8022631200,
E-mail: support@ihelpdsk.com

Aspiring bidders needs to be registered on KPP portal. Bidders can take the assistance from the e-procurement during working hours.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Ele.), O&M Zone, BESCOM

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY
Office of the Executive Engineer, Division-1, Project Implementation Unit, 9th Floor, Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru-560011

No: EE-1/GBA/PIU/TEND/02/2025-26 Date: 16.12.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Only through KPP Portal)

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Executive Engineer-1, Project Implementation Unit invites Request for Proposal from interested persons / firms those **who have done similar nature of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC)** for the below work.

Sl. No.	Name of Work
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for ``Construction of Flood Protection Structures to SWD including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention structure, Nature based solution structures / Bridges and Culverts under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Program (KWSRP) with externally funded projects (World Bank) in Rajarajeshwarinagara Zone Package-1". **Amount put to tender (Works) Rs. in Lakhs:** 18,027.19, **EMD amount in Rs.:** 2,70,500.00
2	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for ``Construction of Flood Protection Structures to SWD including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention structure, Nature based solution structures / Bridges and Culverts under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Program (KWSRP) with externally funded projects (World Bank) in Rajarajeshwarinagara Zone Package-2". **Amount put to tender (Works) Rs. in Lakhs:** 18,532.29, **EMD amount in Rs.:** 2,78,000.00

Time Schedule / Calendar of events: (1) Tender document may be downloaded through e-portal from: **17.12.2025. (2)** Pre-bid meeting: **22.12.2025** at **4:00 p.m.** Office of the Chief Engineer, Division-1, Project Implementation Unit, 9th Floor, Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru-560 011. **(3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **30.12.2025** upto **4:00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical bid: **31.12.2025** at **4:30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Division-1, Project Implementation Unit, GBA

KARNATAKA in PARLIAMENT

State govt neglecting farmers: BJP MP

NEW DELHI, DHNS: BJP member Iranna Kadadi on Tuesday accused the Karnataka government of neglecting farmers and failing to set up procurement centres.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour in Rajya Sabha, the MP said due to the apathy of the state towards farmers, suicides have increased among them.

He said maize and various pulses were sown on 48.7 lakh hectares during kharif in the state. But due to natural calamities, crops grown on around 10 lakh hectares were damaged. This has caused hardships to farmers. He said the Centre has fixed a minimum support price for 23 crops, but it is the responsibility of states to establish procurement centres when prices fall.

He said in just two years, 2,809 farmers have died by suicide.

Sandalwood Board

Bangalore Rural MP C N Manjunath urged the Centre to establish a National Sandalwood Board in the interest of sandalwood growers.

A National Sandalwood Board will go a long way in making sandalwood growers economically self-reliant and ensuring sustainable growth of this heritage sector, he said in Lok Sabha during Zero Hour.

Raising problems faced by farmers to grow sandalwood, he said Karnataka contributes nearly 65% of India's total sandalwood production. But differing state-level policies and complex regulations are troubling farmers, he said.

"As recommended by NITI Aayog, a national-level Sandalwood Board on the lines of the Coffee Board is essential," he said.

Will regulate rents, protect tenants, says minister

Govts have forgotten law, says KBG; amendment Bill passed

BELAGAVI, DHNS:

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda on Tuesday told the Assembly that the government will focus on regulating rents and protecting interests of tenants, while conceding that successive administrations had "forgotten" a law that exists for this purpose.

Gowda said this during the passage of the Karnataka Rent (Amendment) Bill, which removes imprisonment clauses for various offences while hiking penalty amounts.

Senior BJP lawmaker Suresh Kumar recalled that the Rent Control Act was strong when he started practice as an advocate in 1981.

"We had house rent courts (HRCs). Most of our cases were before small causes courts and HRCs. Today, the Act has lost its relevance. Tenants don't have protection. There's no control over fixing rents," he said.

"The middle class and lower-middle class families are suffering. The government should think about protecting them. Most of their salaries go towards rents," Kumar, a former minister, said.

Gowda said the Rent Act and other such laws were enacted in the 1960s and 1970s when "state-controlled economy" existed. "There was state-led development. That's why we had laws on urban land ceiling and rent control. But in the last 35-40 years, we've shifted to market-led development with the theory that there will be automatic checks and balances," he said.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda makes a point in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday. Minister Priyank Kharge is also seen.

The minister acknowledged the need to protect tenants from exploitation.

"We also need to make people aware. We wil focus on that," he said. "We have forgotten implementing the law. We have given up on the main substance of the original law. We must reactivate it".

The Assembly passed the Karnataka Rent (Amendment) Bill, which Gowda said was based on a draft law circulated by the union government.

"The original Act contained imprisonment clauses for minor offences. We're decriminalising minor offences as is being done across the country," he said.

Amendments

- Omitting Section 53 on cognizance of offences and powers to prosecute
- Any landlord or tenant failing to present a copy of the tenancy agreement or other particulars to face a penalty of up to Rs 2,000 and an additional Rs 5,000. At present, the law carries a fine of Rs 2,000, simple imprisonment of up to one month and a daily fine of Rs 500.
- Middlemen or agents who fail to register with the government face up to Rs 2,000 in fine and daily penalty of Rs 20,000. At present, there is a fine of Rs 2,000, a one-month imprisonment and a daily penalty of Rs 2,000.

Govt will challenge HC order on Jan Aushadhi Kendras: Dinesh Gundu Rao

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The Karnataka government will file an appeal challenging the recent decision of the High Court wherein the state was asked to roll back its order on the closure of Jan Aushadhi Kendras on the premises of government hospitals.

Replying to queries on the subject from BJP MLCs Dr Dhananjay Sarji and Pradeep Shettar during 'Zero Hour' in the Legislative Council on Tuesday, Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao firmly rejected suggestions of the government's decision being influenced by political considerations. "We will file an appeal challenging the court's decision. We simply want everything – treatment and medicines – to be free at government hospitals," said the minister.

As many as 80 Jan Aushadhi Kendras currently being run by MSIL are slated for closure, Dinesh said. "We have written to the Union Health Minister, urging the Centre to sell the generic medicines directly to the state government; we will distribute them to patients freely at government hospitals. Free for us means absolutely free. We don't want a system wherein doctors are prescribing medicines that need to be bought elsewhere," he added.

However, the minister said that the state had no objection to the Centre opening more Jan Aushadhi Kendras. "We don't want these shops on the premises of government hospitals. I cannot share all the details here, but allowing businesses to operate at government hospitals will alter the existing system. Despite everything being provided freely at government hospitals, instances of staff prescribing medicines that have to be bought outside continue to be reported," Dinesh added.

Owners of Jan Aushadhi Kendras had filed a batch of petitions in the High Court challenging the state government's decision to close their shops at government hospitals.

MEMORABLE VISIT

Suttur Mutt seer Shivarathri Deshikendra Swami presents a memento to President Droupadi Murmu at a programme to mark 1,066th Jayanti of Shivarathreeshwara Shivayogi Mahaswami, at Malavalli in Mandya district on Tuesday.

'Centre informed on rejection of Kasturirangan report'

BELAGAVI DHNS: Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre informed the Legislative Council on Tuesday that a letter has been written to the Centre stating that it is not possible to accept the Kasturirangan report on the eco-sensitive area of the Western Ghats. Replying to Congress MLC Ivan D'Souza, the minister said that the Cabinet has decided that the Karnataka will not accept the Kasturirangan report, and accordingly a letter was written to the Centre.

Centre withholds Rs 1,279 crore to state for not holding ZP, TP polls

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Centre on Tuesday informed the Lok Sabha that it had withheld the release of Rs 1,279 crore to Karnataka under the 15th Finance Commission for not holding zilla and taluk panchayat polls.

Operational guidelines

"As per operational guidelines dated July 14, 2021, timely conduct of elections to panchayati raj institutions is one of the stipulated criteria for release of funds to different tiers of panchayats. However, owing to non-conduct of elections since 2020-21 by the Karnataka government for zilla and taluk panchayats, funds pertaining to these tiers have been withheld," Rajiv Ranjan Singh, minister of state for panchayati raj, said in a written reply.

Rajiv Ranjan Singh

This was in response to a query from Bangalore Rural Lok Sabha member C N Manjunath (BJP).

The minister said from 2020-21 to 2024-25, total grants released under the 15th finance commission to Karnataka for rural local bodies were Rs 11,905.89 crore against the recommended Rs 13,184 crore. A total of Rs 1,279 crore has been withheld for not holding elections, he said.

Since 2020-21, Karnataka has not held polls to ZPs and TPs and has appointed administrators instead.

The union ministry of panchayati raj has sent advisories to the state government on holding timely elections to panchayati raj bodies, he said.

NATION

Parl panel pushes for front-of-pack food labelling

Lawmakers say current ones are difficult to read and interpret

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

HIDDEN CALORIES

- Panel says unreadable fine print undermines healthier choices
- House committee urges FSSAI to act on draft rules pending since 2022
- Leaders highlight obesity and diabetes risks tied to poor labelling
- Seek warning labels that enhance ability to make quick and informed decisions
- Sweeteners, alcohol, chewing gums in focus

Lawmakers on Tuesday batted for the long-awaited 'Front of Pack Labelling' (FOPL) of nutritional information on food products, as "current labels are often difficult for average consumers to interpret" and may not guide them towards "healthier purchasing decisions".

Noting the importance of effective FOPL in addressing the growing incidence of diet-related non-communicable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases, the parliamentarians said such warning labels "significantly enhance consumers' ability to make quick and informed decisions, particularly for those with low literacy levels".

In its report tabled in Parliament, the Committee on Subordinate Legislation said existing back-of-pack nutrition tables are often printed in very small fonts, making them difficult or even impossible for many consumers to read.

The committee, chaired by Shiv Sena MP Milind Deora, recommended that the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) encourage the adoption of front-of-pack nutrition panels to benefit consumers and promote healthier food choices.

It suggested that such panels be presented in an easily readable tabular format with a "prescribed minimum font size to ensure legibility".

The House panel's recommendations come at a time when a draft notification on the implementation of FOPL has been under consideration by the FSSAI since 2022, while the Supreme Court is also hearing a public interest litigation on the issue.

The committee expressed concern that sweeteners, alcoholic beverages and chewing gums are exempted from mandatory nutritional labelling, despite their links to obesity, diabetes and hidden calories. The lawmakers recommended that the FSSAI amend the regulations to limit exemptions, which should apply only to raw, unprocessed items such as herbs or spices.

KCR to return to streets over Telangana irrigation issues

BRS chief plans new movement against Congress govt's water policies

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

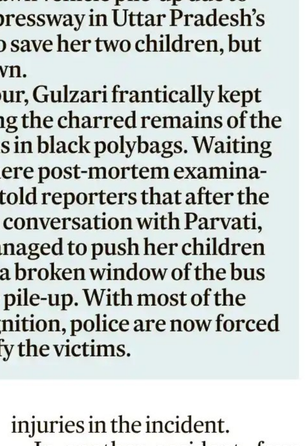
WATER WARS

- BRS to launch protests over Krishna and Godavari allocations
- December 19 meet to chart agitation;
- Palamuru project at the heart of battle
- BRS accuses Cong of stalling irrigation lifeline for Telangana farmers

Nearly 18 months after the Lok Sabha polls, BRS chief K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) is preparing to return to the streets, building mass public movements against the Congress government in Telangana. Known for leading the agitation that secured separate statehood for Telangana, KCR now plans to mobilise people around issues of river water allocation and irrigation projects.

Since losing power in the 2023 Assembly elections, KCR has largely remained at his Yerravelli farmhouse, stepping out briefly during the Lok Sabha campaign before retreating again into relative seclusion and meeting party leaders occasionally at his residence. The BRS, however, failed to secure even a single seat in the parliamentary polls.

KCR has convened a crucial meeting of the party's legislature wing and state executive on December 19 at Telangana Bhavan to chalk out an agitation strategy. The agenda includes demanding equitable sharing of river water, expediting major irrigation projects, especially the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project, and opposing the alleged diversion of Krishna and Godavari waters by Andhra Pradesh.



K Chandrashekar Rao

Party sources said the meeting would focus on what the BRS terms the Congress government's "negligence" in completing key irrigation projects initiated during its decade-long rule.

"There is serious concern over the Congress government's failure to stop Andhra Pradesh from diverting and exploiting Krishna and Godavari waters, which is directly harming Telangana's interests. The party believes a new public movement has become inevitable to safeguard the irrigation rights of Telangana farmers," a senior BRS leader said.

The leader claimed the previous BRS government had secured 91 TMC of Krishna water for the Palamuru-Rangareddy project, but the current government was now requesting just 45 TMC from the Centre — a move the party describes as alarming.

"Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy accepting 45 TMC is a betrayal of Telangana's farmers. Despite having eight BJP MPs from the state, none have raised their voice to defend Telangana's irrigation rights. The BJP's silence, both in Delhi and Telangana, shows its indifference to farmers' suffering," the leader said.

Bengal minister quits over Messi fiasco; notices to top cops

KOLKATA, DHNS: West Bengal Sports Minister Aroop Biswas, a senior Trinamool Congress leader, resigned on Tuesday as Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's government moved to salvage its image after the fiasco over an event featuring football icon Lionel Messi in Kolkata on December 13 triggered criticism against the ruling party.

The government issued show-cause notices to the state's Director General of Police, Rajeev Kumar, known to be a close confidante of the TMC supremo, and another senior police officer Aneesh Sarkar. It also removed Dev Kumar Nandan, the chief executive officer of the stadium, from his post. The sports secretary, Rajesh Kumar Singh, was also served a show-cause notice.

Mamata, posted on X and apologised to Messi for the chaos. She also constituted a inquiry committee to investigate the mismanagement.

25 killed as dense fog triggers road accidents across UP

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

At least 25 people were killed and 59 injured in multiple road accidents caused by dense fog across Uttar Pradesh.

At least 13 people lost their lives on the Delhi–Agra Expressway after several vehicles collided in the early hours of Tuesday amid thick fog near the Baldev area in Mathura district, police sources said.

According to the police, seven buses and two cars were involved in the accident, which occurred around 4.30 am. The vehicles caught fire following the collision, trapping passengers inside. Some bus passengers were charred to death. Fire tenders took several hours to bring the raging flames under control, sources said.

Mathura Divisional Commissioner Shailendra Kumar Singh said that four bodies had so far been identified. Eyewitnesses said visibility was almost zero at the time of the accident.

The injured were admitted to hospitals in Mathura and the Community Health Centre at Baldev, with critically injured passengers referred to Agra Medical College Hospital.

The death toll may rise as several of the injured were reported to be in critical condition. The district administration has issued helpline numbers to provide information about the incident.

President Droupadi Murmu condoled the loss of lives and injuries in the incident.

In another accident, four people were killed when their vehicle hit a boulder in the Bangarmau area on the Lucknow–Agra Expressway in Unnao district.

Separately, four passengers were killed and 20 others injured when the bus they were travelling in collided with a truck in Sant Kabirnagar district on Monday midnight.

Mother who saved 2 kids missing

Gulzari made several rounds of multiple hospitals throughout Tuesday, searching for his sister-in-law, Parvati. Caught up in a pre-dawn vehicle pile-up due to dense fog on the Yamuna Expressway in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura, Parvati managed to save her two children, but her own fate remains unknown.

With hope fading by the hour, Gulzari frantically kept looking for Parvati (42) among the charred remains of the deceased brought to hospitals in black polybags. Waiting outside a Mathura facility where post-mortem examinations are conducted, Gulzari told reporters that after the accident, he had a telephonic conversation with Parvati, who told him that she had managed to push her children — Prachi and Sunny — out of a broken window of the bus that caught fire following the pile-up. With most of the bodies charred beyond recognition, police are now forced to rely on DNA tests to identify the victims.

Goa Police gets 2-day transit remand of Luthra brothers

NEW DELHI, PTI: A Delhi court on Tuesday allowed the Goa Police a two-day transit remand of Luthra brothers, Gaurav Luthra and Saurabh Luthra, co-owners of the Goa nightclub where 25 people were killed in a fire on December 6.

Gaurav Luthra and Saurabh Luthra upon their arrival in New Delhi, on Tuesday. PTI

The Goa Police produced both the accused before Judicial Magistrate Twinkle Chawla in the Patiala House Court to seek transit remand of three days.

The investigating officer informed the court that they will be taken to Goa by flight at the earliest. The Judicial Magistrate allowed the Goa Police a transit remand of the Luthra brothers for two days.

Both the accused were taken to court in two separate police vehicles amid heavy security.

This comes as both of them landed in India and were arrested by the Goa Police after the Thai authorities deported the Luthra brothers to India.

They were also taken to the Safdarjang Hospital for their medical checkup.

The deportation comes amid an ongoing probe into the deadly blaze, which triggered widespread outrage and led to scrutiny over alleged safety violations and lapses by the nightclub management.

The Luthras, co-owners of the 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub, left for Phuket in Thailand shortly after the fire incident. An Interpol Blue Corner Notice was issued against them.

The two were detained by the Thai authorities on December 11 following the intervention of the Indian mission, which was in close touch with the Thai government in the case.

Vyapam scam: CBI court sentences 10 to 5 years in jail

INDORE, PTI: A special Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) court in Indore on Tuesday sentenced 10 people to five years of rigorous imprisonment in connection with irregularities in the Patwari recruitment exam linked to Madhya Pradesh's Vyapam scam, said the probe agency.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 3,000 on each accused, a CBI release said. According to the release, the court convicted the accused under relevant legal provisions for fraudulent impersonation in the 2008 Patwari (revenue official) recruitment exam and sentenced them to five years of rigorous imprisonment.

An FIR was registered against these individuals at the Khargone Kotwali police station on October 26, 2012.

The FIR alleged these individuals had committed fraud in the Patwari recruitment examination, conducted by the then Professional Examination Board (known as Vyapam by Hindi acronym) by submitting forged documents and securing their selection.

The Vyapam scam, which came to light in 2013, involved alleged collusion of gangsters, officials, and political leaders in illegal selection of hundreds of candidates in entrance examinations for state government services and professional courses.

Uddhav, Raj Thackeray tie-up expected within a week: Raut

MUMBAI, DHNS: A formal alliance between the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Raj Thackeray-headed Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) is expected to be announced within a week, ahead of elections to 29 municipal corporations across Maharashtra.

Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut said Uddhav and Raj had come together and that the two parties would jointly contest key civic bodies, including Mumbai, Thane, Mira-Bhayandar, Kalyan-Dombivli, Pune and Nashik.

"These are the six major municipal corporations. In the remaining areas, the local units of Sena (UBT) and MNS will take a call," Raut said.

Asked about a formal announcement of the alliance, Raut said it could be expected within a week.

Gita Gopinath flags logistical risks in one nation, one election plan

Tells Parl panel simultaneous polls may cut costs but require unusually high staffing

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Well-known economist Gita Gopinath has told the Parliament's One Nation, One Election (ONOE) panel that simultaneous polls to Lok Sabha and Assemblies could reduce election costs, but warned that it could face 'heavy logistical pressures' and 'unusually high staffing needs', citing the example of the 2024 Indonesian polls.

Her advice was to undertake a systematic analysis of the experience of states—Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim—that currently hold simultaneous elections, as it would provide a useful assessment of logistical challenges and cost-effectiveness and help share best practices across states.

In her written submission to the Joint Committee of Parliament, she said ONOE could 'reduce uncertainty and foster economic activity' as well as 'increase' long-term infrastructure investment while emphasising that she views simultaneous polls as a 'positive reform' from an economic standpoint.

Gita Gopinath

However, she said the exact costs of implementing simultaneous elections remain uncertain, and logistical challenges of synchronising elections should not be underestimated, as underscored by Indonesia's recent experience under fully simultaneous elections.

Gita, IMF's First Deputy Managing Director, said last year Indonesia faced record spending, heavy logistical pressures, and unusually high staffing needs, culminating in a Constitutional Court directive to partially separate elections from 2029.

She will be appearing before the panel on Wednesday.

"While India's geography and administrative strengths, including robust identification infrastructure, may mitigate some pressures, there remains uncertainty as to the logistical process of synchronisation and the net cost effects," the economist said.

A well-evaluated implementation will be essential to ensure that the reform becomes a sustainable model—one that contributes to long-term economic stability and growth, she said, adding that it is also essential to address the "significant political and constitutional questions surrounding ONOE, such as its impact on federalism and the balance of power."

Emphasising that ONOE could reduce uncertainty and foster economic activity, she said studies show pre-election uncertainty tends to slow investment as international firms cut investment in countries in national election years.

In the Indian context, she said this is reinforced by the Model Code of Conduct.

"By reducing the number of separate election windows, synchronisation can reduce periods of uncertainty for both firms and ministries, thereby enabling steadier procurement and investment planning. This pattern is supported by evidence of stronger post-election growth in states with simultaneous elections," she said.

Govt pushes bills sans panel vetting

LS set to take up nuclear, rural jobs bills amid protest

NEW DELHI, DHNS

FLOOR FIGHT
- Govt fast-tracks SHANTI and VB-G RAM G bills
- Opposition seeks committee referral
- I.N.D.I.A bloc to strategise against govt's legislative push

Ignoring the Opposition's demands to refer the draft legislation to parliamentary committees, the Narendra Modi government is moving ahead with the passage of the SHANTI Bill on the nuclear sector and the VB-G RAM G Bill on rural employment guarantee in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Indicating that it will not be an easy walkover for the treasury benches, I.N.D.I.A bloc leaders will meet on Wednesday morning in Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's office in Parliament to fine-tune their floor strategy. Kharge will also hold a press conference before the meeting.

The Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Bill, 2025, which seeks to allow private participation in the nuclear power sector, and the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (VB-G RAM G) Bill, 2025, which repeals MGNREGA, have been placed in the Revised List of Business for the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

While the SHANTI Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday, the VB-G RAM G Bill was tabled in the Lower House on Tuesday, amid objections from the Opposition, which demanded that both bills be referred to Parliamentary Standing Committees for further scrutiny.

Though some members of the Business Advisory Committee of the Lok Sabha had earlier indicated that the bills were likely to be sent to committees, sources said the government had not given any commitment and had told Opposition MPs, particularly from the Congress, that it would respond later.

While the Viksit Bharat Siksha Adhisthan Bill has been referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament, the Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2025, and the Sabka Bima Sabki Suraksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Bill.

An indication that the SHANTI Bill and VB-G RAM G Bill would not be referred to committees came on Monday evening after Congress leaders reiterated their demand. A communication to Congress MPs by Chief Whip Kodikkunnil Suresh said that the party had insisted that the two bills be sent to further parliamentary scrutiny.

LS nod to bill for repealing or amending 71 laws

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a bill for repealing or amending 71 obsolete and outdated laws, with Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal asserting that the progressive legislation would contribute to ease of living for citizens.

Replying to a brief discussion on the Repealing and Amending Bill-2025, Meghwal said the proposed legislation was aimed at removing outdated laws, correcting errors that had crept in during the law-making process and removing discriminatory aspects of certain laws. The bill was passed by a voice vote.

The minister said that under the Indian Succession Act, 1925, if a Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain or Parsi makes a will, it has to be probated, while a similar provision does not apply to any other community.

The Bill seeks to repeal 71 Acts, including The Indian Tramways Act, 1886, the Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund Act, 1976, and the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988.

So far, 1,562 old archaic laws have been repealed. Once the proposed bill gets Parliament's nod, the total number of laws to be repealed will stand at 1,633.

Participating in the debate, Congress member Ummeda Ram Beniwal said the Bill does not seem to make any amendments to benefit the people. "This seems aimed more at rectifying the Centre's own legislative adventures," said Beniwal.

Samajwadi Party's Lalji Verma expressed concern over the introduction and passage of important bills on the same day, saying that the current government has rushed through many laws, which is why the need for such a bill has arisen today.

Draft electoral rolls in 5 states/UTs after SIR

Over 1 crore names deleted; EC cites absent, shifted, dead/ duplicate voters

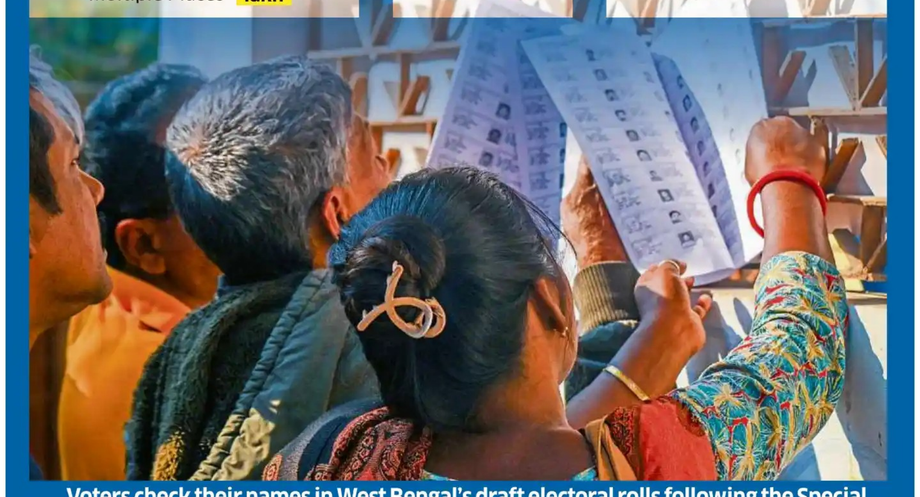
WEST BENGAL
Existing: 7,66,37,529
IN: 7,08,16,630 (92.4%)
OUT: 58,21,899
24.16 lakh Deceased | 32.65 lakh Shifted/Absent
Enrolled at Multiple Places: 1.38 lakh

GOA
Existing: 11,85,034
IN: 10,84,992 (91.56%)
OUT: 1,00,042
25,574 Deceased
72,471 Shifted/Absent
Enrolled at Multiple Places: 1,997

LAKSHADWEEP
Existing: 57,813
IN: 56,384 (97.53%)
OUT: 11,429
705 Deceased | 252 Shifted/Absent
Enrolled at Multiple Places: 472

RAJASTHAN
Existing: 5,46,56,215
IN: 5,04,71,396 (92.34%)
OUT: 41,84,819
8.75 lakh Deceased | 29.6 lakh Shifted/Absent
Enrolled at Multiple Places: 3.44 lakh

PUDUCHERRY
Existing: 10,21,578
IN: 9,18,111 (89.87%)
OUT: 1,03,467
20,798 Deceased | 80,645 Shifted/Absent
Enrolled at Multiple Places: 2,024


Voters check their names in West Bengal's draft electoral rolls following the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), in Balurghat, Dakshin Dinajpur on Tuesday. PTI

Kerala faces extra burden of Rs 1,600 cr, says minister

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: Kerala Local Self Government Minister M B Rajesh has said that the state will suffer an additional burden of Rs 1,600 crore annually as the Centre gears up to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme with the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) bill.

Kerala will be among the worst-affected states with Centre's fresh move. The Centre should withdraw it, as the livelihood of thousands of families will be affected, Rajesh said here on Tuesday.

He alleged that the fresh move was a sequel to the attempts by the BJP government over the past 10 years to scuttle the widely hailed employment guarantee scheme. He also said that the Centre was making false claims over VB-G RAM G Bill.

Kerala stands in second position with regard to the maximum number of families benefitting from 100 days of employment. In the 2024-25 financial year 5,19,623 families in Kerala benefited from the scheme.

'Anti-people': Cong protest today against G RAM G bill

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Congress will hold a nationwide protest on Wednesday against the 'VB-G RAM G Bill', which replaces the rural employment guarantee scheme, with party leader Rahul Gandhi saying that the removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name from the law is due to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'dislike' for the Father of the Nation and the rights of the poor.

Pledging to oppose the 'anti-people' Bill from 'Sadak to Sansad (from to Parliament)', the party has asked its units to organise protests at district headquarters on Wednesday.

On Congress' Foundation Day on December 28, General Secretary KC Venugopal said in letters to state president and legislature party leaders, the party will take the protests to the mandal level and villages, "reaffirming the party's commitment to dignity of labour, social justice and the right to work".

The party decided to intensify its protest against the 'Viksit Bharat: Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission VB-G RAM G Bill' aimed at repealing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, as the government introduced it in Lok Sabha and did not commit to sending it to a Parliamentary panel for scrutiny.

Gandhi, who is presently in Germany, said the MGNREGA, which is the living embodiment of Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Gram Swaraj, has "always unsettled" Modi.

He said MGNREGA was built on three fundamental principles -- right to employment, autonomy for villages to decide their own development works and full wage support by the central government and 75% of material costs.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Ethiopian counterpart Abiy Ahmed Ali witnesses exchange of MoUs, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. PTI

India, Ethiopia elevate ties to strategic partnership

ADDIS ABABA, PTI: India and Ethiopia on Tuesday elevated their historical ties to a strategic partnership, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with his Ethiopian counterpart Abiy Ahmed Ali during which they discussed issues of bilateral and mutual interest.

Modi, who arrived here from Jordan on his maiden bilateral visit, was accorded a ceremonial welcome at the National Palace ahead of the bilateral talks, reflecting the vibrant India-Ethiopia relations rooted in shared history and a promising future.

"We are elevating India and Ethiopia relations to a strategic partnership. This step will provide new energy, new momentum, and new depth to our ties," Modi said during the delegation-level talks.

He thanked PM Ali for his support in India's fight against terrorism. "The support of friendly countries in struggle against terrorism holds great significance," Modi said.

The two sides signed eight MoUs/agreements, including upgrading ties to 'Strategic Partnership', customs cooperation, establishing a data centre at the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry, UN peacekeeping training cooperation, debt restructuring under G20, more ICCR scholarships and AI short courses for Ethiopians, and support for maternal and neonatal healthcare.

PM Modi conferred with highest honour

Prime Minister Modi was conferred with Ethiopia's highest award 'The Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia' by Ali.

The PM was conferred with the award for his exceptional contribution towards strengthening India-Ethiopia partnership and for his visionary leadership as a global statesman, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement in New Delhi.

PM Modi is the first global head of state/head of government to receive this award.

NDA govt's move to name new laws in Hindi sparks row

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The NDA government's new practice of naming bills primarily in Hindi, deviating from the long-standing tradition of providing both Hindi and English titles, has kicked up a row.

In recent years, the NDA government has introduced several legislations with Hindi names. Non-Hindi-speaking states, mainly in Southern India, allege that this amounts to an imposition of the language.

The latest in the long list is the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, 2025, introduced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. The Bill seeks to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA).

Similarly, on Monday, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan introduced a legislation aimed at reforms in higher education titled the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill. Another, the Sabka Bima, Sabki Raksha Bill, is named to amend insurance laws.

Earlier, the Centre introduced laws replacing the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Indian Evidence Act. These were named the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Bill.

P CHIDAMBARAM
Congress MP

"This change is an affront to non-Hindi speaking people and to States that have an official language other than Hindi.

JOTHIMANI
Congress MP

"I see this as an imposition of Hindi. Already, TN has been deprived of SSA funds just because we have opposed the three-language policy in the National Education Policy-2020

The Aircraft Act of 1934 was replaced by the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak.

During the ongoing Parliament's winter session, several MPs objected to the use of Hindi names, arguing that they are difficult to understand.

When the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday, RSP(A) leader NK Premachandran said it was difficult for him to pronounce the name. He alleged that this practice violates Article 348 of the Constitution, which requires new laws to have English titles.

Congress member Jothimani and DMK members TM Selvaganapathi and TR Baalu also objected to the Hindi names.

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram said, "So far, the practice was to write the title of the bill in English words in the English version and in Hindi words in the Hindi version of the Bill. When no one pointed out any difficulty in this 75-year practice, why should the government make a change?"

Article 348(1)(b) of the Constitution mandates that, until Parliament decides otherwise, the authoritative text for all Bills, Acts, Ordinances, and orders at the central and state levels must be in English. This ensures legal clarity, especially in cases of translation discrepancies where the English version prevails.

Digital arrest: SC asks Centre to hold stakeholders' meet

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Supreme Court asked the Centre on Tuesday to look into the suggestions put forward by the amicus in ensuring compensation to victims of digital arrests, while voicing its concern over the enormous amounts taken out from the country by cybercriminals.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi was told by Attorney General R Venkataramani that an inter-ministerial meeting will soon be held to discuss various strategies on the issue of digital arrest, including those flagged by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the suggestions of amicus curiae N S Nappinai.

Chief Justice Kant said, "We are surprised by the staggering amount of money taken out of the country by these fraudsters."

Amicus curiae Nappinai suggested introducing a victim compensation scheme on the lines of the United Kingdom's model for Authorised Push Payment scams, which ensures mandatory reimbursement to victims through the intervention of the banking channel.

The CJI also emphasised the need for automatic systems to alert banks when such fraudulent transactions occur.

Venkataramani submitted that the CBI has given certain inputs and suggested an inter-departmental meeting to consider the recommendations of the amicus.

EXTINGUISHED

Gujarat govt bans rolling papers, cites rise in drug addiction

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Claiming that rolling papers are being increasingly used by youth and minors to consume intoxicating substances, including marijuana, the Gujarat government on Tuesday announced an immediate ban on their sale, storage, distribution, and trafficking across the state.

The state government made the announcement through a notification, which stated that violators would be penalised under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

This section addresses disobedience to orders issued by a public servant and has provision for punishment of up to one year.

The notification dated December 16 stated that the decision was made based on information gathered from social media posts, advertisements, and reports from social organizations, all of which indicated that youths and minors were using these products to consume various types of drugs using these products.

It also stated that these papers contain harmful substances such as titanium dioxide, potassium nitrate, artificial dye, calcium carbonate and chlorine bleach, among others.

"Rolling papers like Gogo Smoking Con, Perfect Roll are easily found at paan parlours, grocery stores as well as tea stalls, contributing to rising addiction among youths," the notification stated, adding that the decision of ban on these products was necessitated "in the interest of citizens.

The Ahmedabad rural police on Monday destroyed 840 Gogo Paper seized from different paan parlours in Viramgam town. Similarly, Surat police on Tuesday raided a shop named "Little Goa" and seized Gogo Papers, besides crushers used for marijuana.

The decision also comes in wake of the Congress criticising the government over the large-scale seizure of highly addictive drugs across the state.

Kerala to screen all films at IFFK despite Centre's clearance denial

CM Vijayan claims permission denial part of Sangh Parivar agenda

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The Kerala government on Tuesday directed the organisers of the International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) to go ahead with full screening schedule, including 15 films for which the Union government had not granted permission.

Alleging that screening permission to many films was being denied as part of the Sangh Parivar agenda, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan instructed the The Kerala State Chalachitra Academy, which oganised the festival to screen all the films.

Films awaiting nod

- Flames
- Timbuktu
- Wajib
- Santosh
- Bamako
- Clash
- Red Rain
- Riverstone
- Battleship Potemkin
- Palestine 36
- Yes
- All That's Left of You
- A Poet: Unconcealed Poetry
- The Hour of The Furnaces
- Tunnels: Sun In The Dark

"Censorship at film festivals is yet another move to impose the Sangh Parivar agenda of suppressing diversity and voices of dissent. It is yet another instance of trying to impose a dictatorship. Kerala society will not succumb to such moves. All films scheduled to be screened at IFFK will be screened," Vijayan said.

Cultural Affairs Minister Saji Cheriyan said the Centre's stand would put the international film festivals into a serious crisis and must be strongly resisted.

As per norms, films that do not have a censorship certificate require an exemption certificate from the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for screening at film festivals.

The Academy had sought permission to screen 187 films at the IFFK. Exemption was pending for 19 films, of which four were approved by Tuesday.

The row intensified as films related to Palestine conflict, including 'Palestine 36', were among those awaiting the Centre's nod. A few of these films were already screened at other film festivals in India.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who raised the issue with the Centre, said in a social media post that the denials defy logic, are disheartening to all who seek to promote India on the world stage, and diminish our cultural standing both abroad and at home.

Six kids contract HIV in MP after transfusion of 'infected' blood

SATNA, (MP) PTI: A routine necessity turned into a nightmare for six families in Madhya Pradesh's Satna after their children, already battling severe blood disorder thalassemia, tested positive for HIV, which officials suspect was transmitted via contaminated blood transfusions at different hospitals.

All these cases were reported between January and May this year, and all the affected children, aged between 12 and 15, are being treated under HIV protocols, an official said.

Madhya Pradesh Health Minister Rajendra Shukla ordered a probe into the matter. "It is also being investigated whether the blood transfusion took place in other hospitals also or only in the government hospital," he said.

According to the official, six children suffering from thalassemia have contracted the incurable disease after receiving HIV-infected blood transfusions at the district hospitals in Satna and Jabalpur, and a private medical facility in Madhya Pradesh.

The parents of one of the children were also affected, he said.

Satna Collector and Magistrate Satish Kumar S said, "The affected children received blood transfusions at Satna District Hospital, Jabalpur District Hospital, and several other locations."

However, all the infected persons are out of danger and are being treated, according to him.

Rs 1L loan to Rs 74L debt: Farmer forced to sell kidney

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

A young farmer from Maharashtra's Chandrapur district alleged that he was forced to travel to Kolkata and then to Cambodia to sell his kidney after a small loan of Rs 1 lakh spiralled into an unmanageable debt of Rs 74 lakh, owing to exorbitant interest rates charged by private moneylenders.

The Chandrapur police have arrested four accused and are investigating the claims.

In his complaint, Roshan Sadashiv Kude, a resident of Minthur village, named six moneylenders, all residents of Brahmapuri town.

He has now threatened that he and his family will immolate themselves in front of the state secretariat in Mumbai. He alleged that he was being charged a penalty of Rs 10,000 per day and that the moneylenders operated as an organised gang.

Kude said one of the moneylenders advised him to sell his kidney. Through an agent, he travelled to Kolkata for medical tests and then to Cambodia, where his kidney was removed and sold for Rs 8 lakh.

The allegations have triggered sharp reactions. Farmers' leader Raju Shetti described the incident as unfortunate and urged Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to take cognisance of the matter.

"What are the Police and Home Department doing... how can interest rates spiral like this," he asked.

Congress Legislature Party leader Vijay Wadettiwar said he had written to the police seeking an inquiry and demanded immediate action.

NCP(SP) MLA Rohit Pawar said the incident was shameful.

"Strict action must be taken against this moneylender. The government should also waive farmers' debts without waiting for the right time. If farmers are forced to sell their own organs to repay debts, why shouldn't a case be filed against this government for creating a conducive environment for the trade of human organs," he asked.

Supreme Court issues notice on Justice Varma's impeachment plea

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued notice to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha secretariats on a plea filed by Allahabad High Court judge Justice Yashwant Varma, challenging the impeachment proceedings initiated against him.

Justice Varma contended that the provisions of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, were not followed and that the motion for his removal was not passed by both Houses of Parliament on the same day.

A bench led by Justice Dipankar Datta sought responses to the petition, which also challenges the validity of the parliamentary committee constituted under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, to probe corruption allegations against him.

Justice Varma questioned the legality of the three-member committee, arguing that it was constituted solely by the Lok Sabha under the procedure laid down in the Act.

In his plea, he maintained that once a motion seeking his removal was introduced in both Houses of Parliament, the three-member inquiry committee should have been constituted jointly by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, and not unilaterally by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Earlier, a three-member judges' inquiry panel reported the recovery of piles of burnt and unburnt cash from Justice Varma's residence after examining more than 55 witnesses. The panel indicted him for misconduct.

The panel said Justice Varma offered no plausible explanation for his claim that he had no knowledge of the cash. It described his conduct as unnatural and recommended his removal from office.

MISCELLANY

◆COMICS◆

Blondie

MY ART TEACHER SAID COLORING IN A COLORING BOOK CAN BE VERY THERAPEUTIC
HOW SO?
SHE SAID IT'S BEEN SHOWN TO RELIEVE STRESS AND HELP YOU KEEP YOUR SANITY!
NOW WHAT'S THAT BOBBLEHEAD WASTING COMPANY TIME DOING?

Hagar The Horrible

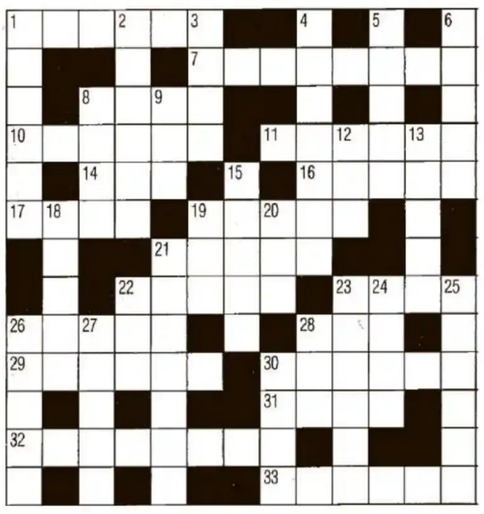
Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

YOU'RE ASKING OUR FAMILY TO ADOPT THIS DOG?!
WHY NOT? HE'S SNOOPY'S BROTHER! HE'S A GOOD DOG
HE'S A FULL-BLOODED BEAGLE
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY
I SAY HE'S PART BEAGLE AND PART DISASTER!

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12311



CRYPTIC

ACROSS

1 Sooner? Emphatically! (6)
7 Useless sort of bed, but in good order (5-3)
8 Suddenly turns up with Roberts (4)
10 Briskly stir a batter? (4,2)
11 To down tools can be a blow (6)
14 Persuaded to enter the double doors (3)
16 Wouldn't he sing for a fiver? (5)
17 He could see himself in the mirror (4)
19 Does wrong a lot when treated (5)
21 He has a dozen (5)
22 Many a mystic tome can be heavenly (5)
23 It made the ancients blue (4)
26 Cancel clean out (5)
28 Like the top of the main tent (3)
29 Plus one (6)
30 Get me to lead you (6)
31 Bit of a teaser, but no sweet (4)
32 Naïve flier given a possible half share (8)
33 Can Edward be a shade colourful? (6)

DOWN

1 Go around at the right pace (6)
2 Horny nose? (6)
3 A tool, say, roughly speaking (4)
4 Bet, being bird-like? (7)
5 Spring in the country (5)
6 It will measure me a half of bitter (5)
8 I labour up to the island (4)
9 A potential bloomer, chum (3)
12 Shade the coloured end (3)
13 A dish from India (with a hint of Korea?) (5)
15 In Batman, he's a card! (5)
18 Be equal to the contest (5)
19 Something holding up the water supply? (3)
20 Clique responsible for some loose talk (3)
21 Horse that's taken a short cut? (7)
22 Inaccurate term for a mutt (3)
23 Harold wasn't the president (6)
24 Go back half-mile and take a good look (4)
25 The girl and the boy started together (6)
26 Put on new gates (5)
27 Rob, lock stock and barrel (5)
28 Possibly feathered snake? (3)
30 Hardly handy measures? (4)

ACROSS

1 Passes on (6)
7 Grow, multiply (8)
8 Grime (4)
10 Card suit (6)
11 Deduction, discount (6)
14 Furniture for sleeping on (3)
16 Of birth (5)
17 Untidy state (4)
19 Shinbone (5)
21 Sorcery (5)
22 Songbird (5)
23 Fronded plant (4)
26 Wide (5)
28 Nothing (3)
29 Insect (6)
30 Give to charity (6)
31 Norse god (4)
32 Explosion, eruption (8)
33 Secret plot (6)

DOWN

1 Kidnapper's payment (6)
2 Tolerates (6)
3 Takes a seat (4)
4 Poison (7)
5 Unit of purity of gold (5)
6 Cant (5)
8 Fingerprints, slang (4)
9 Colour (3)
12 Bleat (3)
13 Thin candle (5)
15 Any figure 1 to 9 (5)
18 Crowd actor (5)
19 Small flap of material (3)
20 Rubbish holder (3)
21 Small amount (7)
22 Uncooked (3)
23 End (6)
24 Style, vigour (4)
25 Stylus (6)
26 A broom (5)
27 Address the public (5)
28 Signal agreement (3)
30 Specks (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12310

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 1, Brace 6, K-R-ill 9, An-ton-io 10, Grand 11, Not-Ch. 12, Heist 13, Bloomer 15, Pet 17, Eyot 18, Minute 19, Get-up 20, St.-even 22, O-is-E 24, Tod 25, Scarlet 26, Keit-h 27, St-a-ir 28, Delta 29, Lamp-oon 30, Gril-L 31, Etude.

DOWN: 2, RA-rely 3, Can-no-'t 4, End 5, L-over 6, Kinship 7, Root 8, Locket 12, Hele-N 13, Beast 14, O-ozed 15, Pupil 16, Tenet 18, Munch 19, General 21, Totter 22, Orient 23, Seated 25, S-top-S 26, K-ill 28, D-oe.

EASY

ACROSS: 1, Feral 6, Cause 9, Central 10, Acute 11, Jails 12, Bison 13, Spartan 15, Imp 17, Less 18, Hernia 19, Bogus 20, Eleven 22, Must 24, Pin 25, Prior to 26, Folly 27, Album 28, Bombs 29, Serious 30, Swiss 31, Genes.

DOWN: 2, Escape 3, Actors 4, Lee 5, Stain 6, Cajoles 7, Alan 8, Salami 12, Baton 13, Sleep 14, Aspen 15, Incur 16, Panto 18, Hurry 19, Becomes 21, Lie low 22, Morose 23, Stable 25, Plain 26, Fuss 28, Bug.

◆SU-DO-KU-6779◆

			8		5		4	
		9	6	1				
								9
	4						9	3
6		3				7		1
1	2						5	
7								
				3	4	5		
	6		1		8			

hard

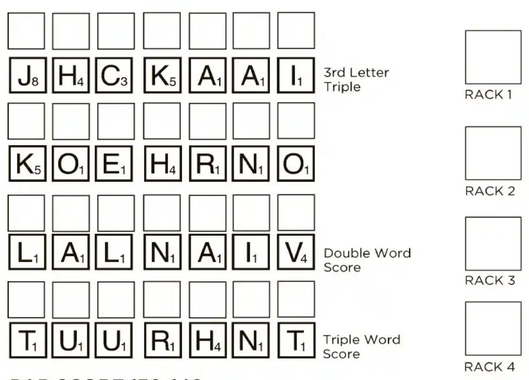
SOLUTION TO 6778

1	4	6	8	9	2	5	7	3
2	9	3	7	1	5	8	6	4
5	8	7	3	6	4	9	2	1
4	5	8	2	7	6	1	3	9
9	6	2	4	3	1	7	8	5
7	3	1	9	5	8	6	4	2
3	2	9	5	8	7	4	1	6
8	1	4	6	2	9	3	5	7
6	7	5	1	4	3	2	9	8

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

©2025 Mattel, SCRABBLE™ and SCRABBLE tiles, including S1 tiles, are trademarks of Mattel.


J8 H4 C3 K5 A1 A1 I1
3rd Letter Triple
K5 O1 E1 H4 R1 N1 O1
L1 A1 L1 N1 A1 I1 V4
Double Word Score
T1 U1 U1 R1 H4 N1 T1
Triple Word Score
RACK 1
RACK 2
RACK 3
RACK 4

PAR SCORE 130-140
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

G2	U1	P3	P3	I1	E1	S1	RACK 1 =	86
F4	U1	N1	N1	E1	L1	S1	RACK 2 =	80
C3	I1	N1	Q10	U1	E1		RACK 3 =	51
S1	L1	U1	S1	H4	E1	S1	RACK 4 =	80
F4	E1	S1	T1	O1	O1	N1	RACK 5 =	80

PAR SCORE 245-255 JUDD'S TOTAL 377

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

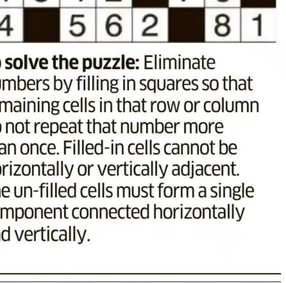
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RSEHF

NEITG

LATCEK

THROET



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHUMP DRAWN GOSSIP MOTIVE
Answer: The bartender was fired for giving away too many free drinks and other — "POUR" DECISIONS

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

HITORI-3233

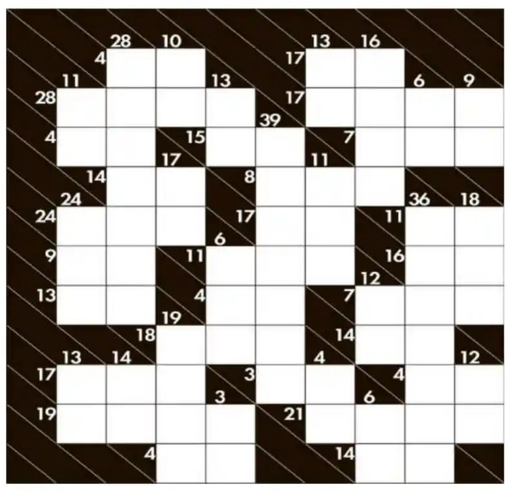
2	6	7	8	3	5	4	3
6	6	4	3	8	2	5	7
5	4	3	3	6	1	8	3
2	5	3	4	7	6	7	1
1	2	8	2	3	4	3	6
4	1	3	7	3	3	6	8
3	8	1	6	7	7	2	3
6	7	7	2	4	8	1	3

SOLUTION TO 3232

3	1	■	5	■	4	7	6
■	2	8	3	5	1	4	■
8	5	■	7	■	3	■	2
■	4	6	■	7	5	2	3
2	6	■	4	3	■	5	7
5	■	3	■	6	2	■	8
1	3	4	2	■	7	6	■
4	■	5	6	2	■	8	1

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3233



SOLUTION TO 3232

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3768

■	6	7	9	8	1		3	■
	■						■	
9		■			3	■		
5	8		6	9	■		7	
1	2				■			
			■		■	8		
4		■				■		1
	5				9	7	■	
■						4		■

SOLUTION TO 3767

8	2	1	3	4	6	7	9	5
4	5	6	2	9	7	8	3	1
7	9	3	8	1	5	2	4	6
3	7	2	1	6	8	9	5	4
1	4	5	9	7	3	6	8	2
9	6	8	4	5	2	1	7	3
5	3	9	6	8	1	4	2	7
2	1	4	7	3	9	5	6	8
6	8	7	5	2	4	3	1	9

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Nirav Modi's plea to reopen extradition appeal delayed

LONDON, PTI: Fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi's application seeking permission to reopen his extradition appeal in the UK High Court was on Tuesday adjourned to March, after the Indian authorities submitted "chunky assurances" regarding his pre-trial detention in Mumbai.

Lord Jeremy Stuart-Smith and Justice Robert Jay, presiding over the hearing in London, began by referencing a "sense of deja vu" over the previously failed appeal by the 54-year-old businessman against being extradited to face charges of fraud and money laundering in India.

The Crown Prosecution Service, representing India in court over the $2 billion Punjab National Bank loan scam case, argued that the application to reopen the extradition appeal emerged as "necessary and urgent" days after that "confidential procedure" was apparently final.

Trump sues BBC for $10 bn

US President claims Jan 6 speech was spliced to misrepresent him

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI

President Donald Trump filed a lawsuit Monday seeking $10 billion in damages from the BBC, accusing the British broadcaster of defamation as well as deceptive and unfair trade practices.

The 33-page lawsuit accuses the BBC of broadcasting a "false, defamatory, deceptive, disparaging, inflammatory, and malicious depiction of President Trump," calling it "a brazen attempt to interfere in and influence" the 2024 US presidential election.

It accused the BBC of "splicing together two entirely separate parts of President Trump's speech on January 6, 2021" in order to "intentionally misrepresent the meaning of what President Trump said."

The lawsuit, filed in a Florida court, seeks $5 billion in damages for defamation and $5 billion for unfair trade practices.

The BBC said it would defend the case and would not make any further comment. The broadcaster apologised last month to Trump over the edit of the January 6 speech. But the publicly funded BBC rejected claims it had defamed him.

BBC chairman Samir Shah had called it an "error of judgment," which triggered the resignations of the BBC's top executive and its head of news. The speech took place before some of Trump's supporters stormed the US Capitol as Congress was poised to certify President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the 2020 election that Trump alleged was stolen from him.

The BBC had broadcast the hourlong documentary—titled "Trump: A Second Chance?" — days before the 2024 US presidential election. It spliced together three quotes from two sections of the 2021 speech, delivered almost an hour apart, into what appeared to be one quote in which Trump urged supporters to march with him and "fight like hell." Among the parts cut out was a section where Trump said he wanted supporters to demonstrate peacefully.

Trump said on Monday he was suing the BBC "for putting words in my mouth." "They actually put terrible words in my mouth having to do with January 6 that I didn't say," the president said.

People walk outside the BBC Broadcasting House, after United States' President Donald Trump sued the broadcaster, in London, on Tuesday. REUTERS

FIGHTS WITH MEDIA

- $15 billion suit against The New York Times for articles related to 2024 election case is pending.
- $10 billion suit against The Wall Street Journal and Rupert Murdoch over Epstein article is pending.
- Paramount Global paid Trump $16 million over an interview with then-Vice President Kamala Harris.
- ABC News paid $15 million over anchor Stephanopoulos' inaccurate statement.

US classifies fentanyl as 'weapon of mass destruction'

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI: US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order, classifying fentanyl as a "weapon of mass destruction".

The order was signed in the Oval Office on Monday in the presence of Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen Dan Caine, White House border czar Tom Homan and other top military officials. Trump says his administration is "formally classifying fentanyl as a weapon of mass destruction, which is what it is. No bomb does what this is doing".

It was not clear how the new designation would affect administration policy or what the legal implications would be for those impacted by fentanyl use. The term weapon of mass destruction has typically referred to nuclear, biological, chemical or kinetic threats capable of causing overwhelming and lasting damage to a population, infrastructure or environment.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Tractors are driven during a protest by British farmers opposing government inheritance tax reform plans, outside of the Houses of Parliament in London on Tuesday. REUTERS

Peace plan could be presented to Russia within days: Zelenskyy

▸ Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says proposals being negotiated with US officials for a peace deal to end his country's nearly four-year war with Russia could be finalised within days, after which American envoys will present them to the Kremlin before further possible meetings in the United States next weekend, AP/PTI reports from Kyiv.

Zelenskyy told reporters late Monday that a draft peace plan discussed with the US during talks in Berlin earlier in the day is "very workable." He cautioned, however, that some key issues — notably what happens to Ukrainian territory occupied by invading Russian forces — remain unresolved. US-led peace efforts appear to be picking up momentum. But Russian President Vladimir Putin may baulk at some of the proposals thrashed out by officials from Washington, Kyiv and Western Europe, including post-war security guarantees for Ukraine. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov repeated Tuesday that Russia wants a comprehensive peace deal, not a temporary truce.

EU eases combustion-engine ban

▸ The EU on Tuesday walked back a 2035 ban on new petrol and diesel cars seen as a milestone in the fight against climate change, as the bloc pivots to bolstering its crisis-hit auto sector, AFP reports from Brussels.

Under proposals decried by environmental groups, carmakers will now have to cut exhaust emissions from new vehicles by 90% from 2021 levels -- down from an envisaged 100% -- with the remainder "compensated" in various ways.

The EU's industry chief, Stephane Sejourne, insisted the bloc's green ambitions stood intact as he put forward a plan billed as a "lifeline" for Europe's auto industry.

"The European Commission has chosen an approach that is both pragmatic and consistent with its climate objectives," he told AFP.

India-Jordan ties strengthened: Modi

Two countries agree on partnership across key areas

AMMAN, PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said his talks with King Abdullah II have strengthened India-Jordan partnership across key areas, including renewable energy, water management, digital transformation, cultural exchanges, and heritage cooperation.

"My visit to Jordan has been immensely productive," Modi said at the end of his two-day visit as he thanked King Abdullah II and the people of Jordan for their "exceptional" friendship.

"Our discussions have strengthened the India-Jordan partnership across key areas such as renewable energy, water management, digital transformation, cultural exchanges and heritage cooperation. The outcomes we have achieved together will open new avenues for progress and prosperity for our citizens," he posted on social media. Modi held a one-on-one meeting with King Abdullah II at the Husseiniya Palace on Monday before the delegation-level talks.

According to a joint statement issued on Tuesday, the two leaders appreciated the long-standing relationship between their countries, which is characterised by mutual trust, warmth and goodwill.

"They positively assessed the multi-faceted India-Jordan relations that span across various areas of cooperation, including political, economic, defence, security, culture, and education, among others," it said.

Jordanian Crown Prince Al Hussein drives a car with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Amman on Tuesday. PTI

3 Indians injured in Australia's Bondi Beach attack

MELBOURNE, PTI: Three Indian students were among 40 people injured in the terrorist attack on Sydney's Bondi Beach in Australia, according to a media report on Tuesday.

Two out of these three students are believed to be receiving treatment in the hospital, The Australia Today news portal reported.

The names of the Indian students injured during Sunday's attack have not been disclosed yet.

The Indian students sustained injuries during the shooting, and their exact condition has not been formally confirmed yet, it said.

Naveed Akram, 24, and his father, 50, opened fire on a gathering during the Jewish festival Hanukkah by the Sea celebration.

At least 15 people were killed in the attack, including a 10-year-old child. Five of the injured remain in critical condition, while two injured police officers are in serious but stable condition, it added.

New South Wales Police Commissioner Mal Lanyon said the investigation is expanding as new information emerges, including international travel by the alleged attackers and the discovery of extremist material, the report said.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

- Amendments in the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999
- **LIC to get greater autonomy:** No government approval needed to open zonal offices, branches
- **Entry barriers eased:** Requirement for minimum net owned funds for foreign reinsurers drops from **Rs 5,000 crore** to **Rs 1,000 crore**

Lok Sabha passes Bill to raise FDI limit in insurance to 100%

Aims at attracting foreign investment; tech to aid customers

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a Bill that seeks to raise the FDI cap in the insurance sector to 100% from the current 74%, and improve ease of doing business for companies.

The Bill named the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Bill, 2025, seeks to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.

Replying to a debate in the House, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said opening the sector for higher competition would help attract foreign investment and technology that would benefit customers.

"Once competition comes into the market, rates automatically reduce... more the competition better the rates," Sitharaman said, underlining the benefits of allowing higher foreign investments in the sector.

The FM claimed that the proposed amendments would further strengthen the public sector insurance companies. "By listing of LIC, we have made it transparent for the citizens," she said.

The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) board is set to get greater autonomy in deciding business expansions. Following the amendments in the Act, LIC would not be required to get government's permission for opening of branches or zonal offices.

- FDI limit in insurance sector to go up from **74%** to **100%**
- IRDAI gets SEBI-like powers
- Long-term vision: Insurance for all by **2047**

FM Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in the Lok Sabha. PTI

Sitharaman said the amended regulations would boost insurance penetration in the country and help achieve the "Insurance for all by 2047" target.

"The government has recently come up with several flagship programmes, like PM Jeevan Jyothi Yojana, PM Suraksha Bima Yojana, PM Jan Aarogya Yojana, and Krishi Bima Yojana aimed for the inclusion of the poorest sections of society who can't afford insurance," she said.

For better clarity to customers, all insurance companies and intermediaries would be required to put the word "insurance" in their name. "We are also treating both intermediaries and insurance companies with a lot more standardised approach so that whenever they do anything, they will have to have a stakeholder consultation before they bring in any policy," Sitharaman said.

India opened its insurance sector for foreign competition in 2001 by allowing 26% FDI. The FDI limit in the sector was increased to 49% in 2015, and to 74% in 2021. The FDI limit for insurance intermediaries was raised to 100% in 2019 to enable them to provide better advisory services to citizens.

Meanwhile, the Opposition criticised the Bill, terming it an attempt to "corporatisation" of the insurance sector.

Analysts said changes in law would help attract long-term capital and international know-how in the sector. "For Indian and foreign insurers, this is a significant change from the point of ownership and governance," said Stella Joseph, Partner, Economic Laws Practice.

Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI) president Narendra Bharindwal said the proposed reforms are a "decisive step towards building a transparent, resilient, and globally competitive insurance ecosystem".

"Higher FDI can also support stronger financial discipline. Increased scrutiny, better price discovery, and regular health checks will help control costs and reduce inefficiencies across the value chain," said Peuli Das, Partner-Actuarial Services, BDO India.

"With rising competition and improved insurance penetration, the industry is poised for healthy and sustainable growth," Das added.

Rupee hits new all-time low, ends 15 paise down at 90.93/USD

Govt cites trade gap, delay in India-US deal

MUMBAI, PTI

The rupee descended to a fresh record low, breaching the 91-a-dollar mark for the first time, before ending 15 paise weaker at 90.93 against the greenback on Tuesday, even as the government in the Rajya Sabha attributed the sliding currency value to the widening trade gap and developments related to the India-US trade deal.

During the session, the local unit lost 36 paise from its previous close to hit its lowest-ever level of 91.14 against the greenback, but strengthened slightly before settling at 90.93, down 15 paise from its previous close. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 90.87 against the dollar and traded in the range of 90.76-91.14 intra-day.

On Monday, the local unit settled at 90.78 against the dollar, registering a loss of 29 paise from its previous close.

A weaker greenback and a sharp decline in global crude oil prices could not prevent the slide in the local unit, forex traders said. The currency has logged a steep fall from 90-a-dollar level to 91 in the last 10 trading sessions. In the past five sessions alone, the unit has slipped 1% against the American currency.

Sensex tumbles 533.50 points

MUMBAI, PTI: Sensex tumbled 533.50 points and Nifty declined to the 25,860 level on Tuesday, as persistent foreign fund outflows, a weak rupee and sluggish global market trends dented investor sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 533.50 points or 0.63% to settle at 84,679.86. During the day, it dived 592.75 points or 0.69% to 84,620.61. The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 167.20 points or 0.64% to a week's low of 25,860.10. The BSE midcap gauge dropped 0.78%, and the smallcap index dipped 0.69%.

Gold dips Rs 1,700 to Rs 1.35 L/10g

NEW DELHI, PTI: Snapping the four-day record rally, gold prices declined by Rs 1,700 to Rs 1,35,900 per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday, as investors booked profits amid weak global cues, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

In the local bullion markets, silver prices also depreciated by Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,98,500 per kg (inclusive of all taxes). The white metal had ended flat at Rs 1,99,500 per kg, also its all-time high level.

In the international markets, spot gold snapped a five-day winning streak, declining by $27.80, or 0.65%, to $4,277.42 per ounce.

Ola Electric founder sells stake

BENGALURU, DHNS: Ola Electric founder-promoter Bhavish Aggarwal has undertaken a one-time, limited monetisation of a small portion of his personal stake to fully repay a promoter level loan amounting to Rs 260 crore. With this, all of the previously pledged 3.93% shares will be released, removing a critical overhang, the company stated.

Bhavish Aggarwal

Post the transaction, the promoter group would continue to hold about 34% in Ola Electric. There is no dilution of promoter control or change in the long-term conviction. The transaction is being executed entirely at the promoter's personal level and would have no impact on Ola Electric's operations, governance, or strategic direction.

IndiGo chaos dents ATF sales

NEW DELHI, PTI: IndiGo's widespread flight cancellations early this month, resulted in ATF sales falling by over 4% in the first fortnight of December, according to preliminary industry data on Tuesday.

IndiGo cancelled almost 5,000 flights — over 1,600 out of about 2,300 daily flights at the peak. Operations stabilised over the weekend.

Meesho's Aatrey joins billionaire club

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru-based e-commerce platform Meesho's co-founder Vidit Aatrey on Tuesday joined the billionaire club, as shares of the company climbed nearly 13% to Rs 193.44 and over 74% compared to the issue price of Rs 111.

47.25 crore shares

With Aatrey holding 47.25 crore shares, representing an 11.1% stake in Meesho, his ownership is valued close to Rs 9,128 crore or at $1 billion.

The SoftBank-backed e-commerce platform's maiden IPO opened for subscription on December 3, and it comprised a fresh issue of shares worth Rs 4,250 crore and an Offer for Sale of up to 10.55 crore equity shares.

Founded in 2015, Meesho has now become one of the leading social commerce platforms.

Spacetech startup Digantara raises $50 million

BENGALURU, DHNS: Spacetech startup Digantara Industries has raised $50 million in a Series B round, towards expansion beyond India and the US, into new manufacturing facilities for optical systems, satellite production and doubling R&D teams globally over the coming year. The startup is gearing up to launch 15 space-based surveillance satellites, along with two dedicated missile-warning satellites, through 2026-27.

Anirudh Sharma

This funding is from a mix of new strategic and financial investors such as 360 ONE Asset, SBI Investments Co Japan, and Ronnie Screwvala, with continued participation from existing investors, Peak XV Partners, and Kalaari Capital.

"Space is no longer a frontier; it is the new high ground for national security. Adversaries of the future will seek asymmetric advantage where sensing, automation, and latency matter most," Digantara Founder and CEO Anirudh Sharma said.

Path to ops

"This capital accelerates our path to operational readiness, expands into the US and Europe, and drives new programs in missile warning, tracking, and space-based interceptors to deliver real deterrence and multidomain superiority," he added.

Ishan Kishan (left) and Ankit Kumar. PTI/ X

Haryana set up final with Jharkhand

PUNE, PTI: Samant Jakhar and Ankit Kumar smashed commanding fifties as Haryana produced a dominant performance to thrash Hyderabad by 124 runs and set up a Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy summit clash with Jharkhand here on Tuesday.

Asked to bat first, opener Ankit clobbered six sixes and a four in a 27-ball 57, adding 81 runs for the opening stand with Arsh Ranga (30).

Khan slams 22-ball 73

Ajinkya Rahane's unbeaten 72 and Sarfaraz Khan's brutal 22-ball 73 powered Mumbai to a three-wicket victory over Rajasthan in their Super League Group B match.

Rahane scored 72 off 41 balls (7 fours, 3 sixes) but it was Sarfaraz who went all guns blazing in yet another chase in excess of 200, clobbering seven sixes and six fours to make 73 off only 22 balls.

Brief scores: Rajasthan: 216/4 in 20 overs (Ramnivas Golada 48, Deepak Hooda 51, Mukul Choudhary 54 n.o.) lt to Mumbai: 217/7 in 18.1 overs (Ajinkya Rahane 72 n.o., Sarfaraz Khan 73; Manav Suthar 3-23).
Madhya Pradesh: 225/8 in 20 overs (Venkatesh Iyer 70; Gurnoor Brar 3-45, Ramandeep Singh 2-23) lt to Punjab: 226/8 in 19.1 overs (Harnoor Singh 64, Anmolpreet Singh 38, Salil Arora 50; Shivam Shukla 3-39, Mangesh Yadav 2-38).
Andhra Pradesh: 203/7 in 20 overs (KS Bharat 35, Ashwin Hebbar 30, Nithish Kumar Reddy; Rajan Deep 2-35, Anukul Roy 2-30) bt Jharkhand: 194/8 in 20 overs (Ishan Kishan 35, Virat Singh 77, Robin Minz 25, Nithish Kumar Reddy 2-32, Saurabh Kumar 2-21)
Haryana: 246/7 in 20 overs (Arsh Ranga 30, Ankit Kumar 57, Samant Jakhar 60, Parth Vats 45; Tanay Thyagarajan 2-43) bt Hyderabad: 122 all out in 16.1 overs (Rahul Buddhi 37; Amit Rana 3-14, Samant Jakhar 2-16, Anshul Kamboj 2-16, Ishant Bhardwaj 2-35) by 124 runs.

Kenaf wins main event

DELHI RESULTS

VS Parmar-trained Kenaf, ridden by Aasif Khan, won the Elusive Hero Plate, the feature event of the Delhi races on Tuesday.

1. Sunrise Valley Plate - 1100M: Stylish Dancer (Rajesh Sehgal) Dhanu Deora 1; Real Boss (Mohit Singh) 2; Aegir (M.B.Qureshi) 3; Quality Assurance (Arjun) 4; Wb: 2- 1/4, Nk, 5-1/2L. T: 1:07.83. TB: Magan Singh. Fav: Stylish Dancer.
2. Cararet Plate - 1600M: Bumblebee (Sanjay Rai) Rakesh 1; Shahzada (MB Qureshi) 2; Burning Desire (Dhanu Deora) 3; Divya Shakti (Varun) 4; Wb: Shd, 1-1/4, 3L. T: 1:39.75. TB: VS Parmar. Fav: Shahzada.
3. Ardent Knight Plate (Div I) - 1100M: Senor (Sanjay Rai) Rakesh 1; Meridia (RN Manjhi) 2; Rhapsody In Green (R Yousaf) 3; Bay Of Biscay (Faizan Khan) 4; Not Run: Lucky Lips. Wb: 2-1/2, 2-1/4, 1/2L. 1:06.09. TB: Ajay Sharma. Fav: Senor.
4. Ardent Knight Plate (Div II) - 1100M: Eastern Crown (Sanjay Rai) Rakesh 1; Telekinesis (Yash Saini) 2; Royal Baby (Dhanu Deora) 3; Juggaad (Varun) 4; Wb: 1-3/4, 1-1/4, 3/4L. T: 1:05.70. TB: Ajay Sharma. Fav: Eastern Crown.
5. Elusive Hero Plate - 1100M: Kenaf (Hari Sharan Devgan) Aasif Khan 1; Ronaldo (Varun) 2; She's A Beauty (Shivam) 3; Adbhut (Rakesh) 4; Wb: 1/2L, Nk, Nk. T: 1-05.00. TB: VS Parmar. Fav: Properly Posh.
6. Soviet Star Plate - 1200M: Beejay (Nand Kishore) Md. Talib 1; Ashwa Sirohi (Shekawat) 2; Jet Sukhoi (Saurav Rawat) 3; Time To Win (R.N.Manjhi) 4; Wb: 2-1/4, 3-1/2, 3-3/4L. T: 1-10.85. TB: Zulfiqar Khan. Fav: Beejay.
Bengaluru dividends:
I race: Rs 12w; 10, 14p; Fc: Rs 18; Q: Rs 19; Shp: Rs 15; Thp: Rs 26: Tri: Rs 41 & 24; Ex: Rs 67 & 35.
II race: Rs 41w; 14, 10, 14p; Fc: Rs 125; Q: Rs 40. Shp: Rs 34; .Thp: Rs 39; Tri: Rs 280 & 122; Ex: Rs 4,551 & 3,191.
III race: Rs 16w; 10, 14, 57p; Fc: Rs 40; Q: Rs 38; Shp: Rs 20; Thp: Rs 124; Tri: Rs 1,270 & 1,039; Ex: Rs 5,469 & 1,004.
IV race: Rs 21w; 13, 12, 12p: Fc: Rs 50; Q: Rs 20; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 42; Tri: Rs 83 & 46;. Ex: Rs 356 & 206.
V race: Rs 57w; 21, 14, 22p; Fc: Rs 202; Q: Rs 79; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 49; Tri: Rs 304 & 260; Ex: Rs 956 & 286.
VI race: Rs 25w; 10, 20, 19p; Fc: Rs 151; Q: Rs 88; Shp: Rs 40; Thp: Rs 38; Tri: Rs 358 & 353; Ex: Rs 1,160 & 252.

Jackpot: Rs 2,600 (63). **Runner-up:** Rs 379 (185). **Treble:** Rs 529 (143).

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

4th T20I: India vs South Africa (7 pm). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

3rd Ashes: Australia vs England (**day 1, 5 am**). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

3rd Test: New Zealand vs West Indies (**day 1, 3:30 am, Thursday**). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

U-19 Asia Cup: Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka, Afghanistan vs Nepal (both 10:30 am). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network & SonyLIV.**

TENNIS

World Tennis League: Falcons vs Hawks (**3 pm**), Eagles vs Kites (**6 pm**). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

BADMINTON

World Tour Finals: Group Stage (**7 am**). **LIVE** on **Sports 18.**

CRICKET FOURTH T20I

Pressure on SKY as India eye series win

Hosts take on South Africa with skipper's form under the scanner

LUCKNOW, PTI

Shubman Gill's lean patch has been the talking point but an equally "out of runs" skipper Suryakumar Yadav is also under intense scrutiny as India look to find the right balance and seal the five-match series against South Africa in the fourth T20I here on Wednesday.

The third game was an ideal opportunity for Suryakumar to rediscover his touch while India chased a modest 118-run target, but the ease that once made him the top ranked batter in the world was noticeably missing.

Shots that defined his dominance have been producing erratic results and the match in Dharamsala was no different as he fell to his trademark pick-up stroke, highlighting a continued struggle.

But he was defiant when it came to self-assessment.

"The thing is, I've been batting beautifully in the nets. I'm trying everything that's in my control. When the runs have to come, they'll definitely come. I'm not out of form, but definitely out of runs," Suryakumar confidently said at the post-match presentation ceremony after India's win in Dharamsala on Sunday.

However, the numbers tell a worrying story.

The Indian captain has been searching for fluency for over a year, averaging under 15 in the format this season.

Additionally, he's still without a half-century in 2025, the longest such phase of his career.

Only twice during this period has he managed to bat beyond 20 balls.

With the T20 World Cup less than two months away, the defending champions would want their leader and premier batter to rediscover his rhythm sooner rather than later.

Vice-captain Shubman Gill's struggles are as bad if not worse. His elevation to the opening slot has seemingly unsettled India's top order.

Gill replaced a well-settled Sanju Samson. The Kerala wicketkeeper-batter was first pushed down the order and eventually dropped despite forming a promising partnership with Abhishek Sharma earlier.

Gill has shown his class in other formats, but in T20Is he is yet to come across the assured batter that he is in Tests and ODIs.

While he survived during Sunday's low-target chase, his scratchy run-a-ball 28 did little to ease concerns with seven matches to go before the World Cup.

India have added Shahbaz Ahmed to the squad following Axar Patel's illness-enforced exit from the series, a move that could open the door for Kuldeep Yadav to get an extended run.

Captain Suryakumar Yadav has endured a prolonged lull in form and India will hope their premier batter finds form in the fourth T20I against South Africa. PTI

LIVE 7 PM, STAR SPORTS NETWORK, JIOHOTSTAR

City set for some riveting tennis action

Medvedev, Monfils, Kyrgios and Svitolina will be in action at WTL

HITA PRAKASH
BENGALURU, DHNS

Imagine you are taking a leisurely walk past the SM Krishna Tennis Stadium, tucked away within the expanse of Cubbon Park, over the latter half of the coming four days. Chances are the serene surroundings would be disturbed by the rousing cries of "come on," the sharp screech of shoes skidding across the court and the grunts that accompany powerful groundstrokes. These sounds would blend seamlessly with the roar of enthusiastic spectators and lively music, all echoing through Bengaluru's cool, crisp air.

Beginning Thursday, the city's premier tennis venue will burst into life as it plays host to the fourth edition of the World Tennis League. The tournament promises high-octane action, bringing together some of the sport's most recognisable international stars alongside India's most promising and talented players, turning the iconic stadium into a vibrant hub of world-class tennis.

The star-studded international line-up of the franchise event is led by former world No. 1 and 2021 US Open champion Daniil Medvedev, showman Gael Monfils, Canada's Denis Shapovalov and maverick Aussie Nick Kyrgios among men, while world No. 14 Elina Svitolina, No. 25 Paula Badosa and No. 26 Marta Kostyuk are the female competitors in fray.

The just-retired doubles specialist and local hero Rohan Bopanna will be seen wielding his racquet once again as India's top singles player Sumit Nagal, Yuki Bhambri, Dhakshineshwar Suresh, Sahaja Yamalapalli, Shrivalli Bhamidipaty, Ankita Raina and Maaya Revathi will also be seen in action.

The year-end league has four teams -- Game Changers Falcons, VB Realty Hawks, Aussie Mavericks Kites and AOS Eagles -- comprising four players of two men and women each. In a round robin format, each contest consists of four sets with one point awarded for each game a team wins in a tie. In case the game scores are drawn at the end of the four sets, a first to 10 super shootout tie-break are deemed victors. The top two teams from the round robin stage will advance to the final on Saturday.

Falcons, the defending champions, will hope to ride on world No. 13 Medvedev's expertise to make it two in a row. The Russian has Bopanna, Poland's Magda Linette and Sahaja as team-mates. Hawks (2022) and Eagles (2023) were the title holders in the first two seasons.

In what is expected to be an exhibition of the sport, the opening day will see the Hawks take on Kites before the Eagles face Falcons. Consider strolling by or even walking into the stadium to experience some fun-filled tennis entertainment in the core of the city.

Russia's Daniil Medvedev is the biggest star to be in action at the World Tennis League beginning in Bengaluru from Wednesday. AFP FILE PHOTO

PSG ordered to pay $70m to Mbappe in pay dispute

PARIS, AP: A Paris labor court has ruled Paris Saint-Germain must pay more than 60 million euros ($70 million) to Kylian Mbappe in a dispute over unpaid wages and bonuses linked to the end of his contract before his 2024 move to Real Madrid.

Lawyers argued last month before the Conseil de prud'hommes de Paris in a judicial saga involving colossal sums. The court on Tuesday sided with the player amid accusations of betrayal and harassment surrounding the breakdown of his relationship with PSG.

Mbappe's lawyers claimed PSG owed him more than 260 million euros ($305 million), and PSG was seeking 440 million euros from Mbappé, citing damages and a "loss of opportunity" after he left on a free transfer.

The court's ruling can be appealed and is unlikely to end the dispute.

Mbappe's representatives said the ruling "confirms that commitments must be honored. It restores a simple truth: Even in the professional football industry labor law applies to everyone."

There was no immediate reaction from PSG.

Kylian Mbappe

United blow lead thrice

MANCHESTER, AFP: Manchester United blew the lead three times to miss out on moving up to fifth in the Premier League as Bournemouth would not be beaten in a thrilling 4-4 draw at Old Trafford.

United have lost just once in their last 10 games but Ruben Amorim will be frustrated as more points at home were frittered away despite arguably the best attacking display of his reign in charge.

Amad Diallo and Casemiro gave the hosts a half-time lead either side of Antoine Semenyo's equaliser.

Two Bournemouth goals from Evanilson and Marcus Tavernier in seven minutes at the start of the second period turned the game around.

Horse with glanders euthanised, BTC declared 'Notified Area'

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

A horse at the Bangalore Turf Club that was diagnosed with the incurable glanders disease was euthanised by the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department on Tuesday, with the beleaguered club now hoping none of the remaining eight samples turn up positive.

After the Government Veterinary Hospital in Hebbal found five horses at the BTC with suspected glanders infection early this month, the club was forced to send samples of 20 horses to the National Research Centre on Equines (NRCE) in Hisar, Haryana — the nodal agency for determining the outbreak of any zoonotic or any epidemic related to animals in the country — as per Central Government rules.

NRCE, while clearing 11 horses of the deadly disease caused by the bacterium Burkholderia Mallei that mainly affects horses, donkeys or mules, requested BTC to send another batch of nasal swabs and serum samples of nine horses for additional investigation. Of the nine, NRCE confirmed glanders positive for one horse, with results of eight expected to arrive on Wednesday.

This prompted the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department on Tuesday to declare the 2-kilometre radius around BTC as a "Notified Area"—according to the document available with *DH*—and put to sleep the infected horse. Restrictions have also been imposed on the movement of horses in and out of BTC as per the 'National Action Plan for Control and Eradication of Glanders in India'.

"The infected horse has been put to sleep by government authorities following all protocols today," BTC chairman L Shivashankar confirmed to *DH*. "There is no cure for glanders, so the only way to stop the infection from spreading to other horses or even humans is to put the infected horse down."

Shivashankar is now hoping none of the remaining eight samples test positive. "The samples of the remaining eight were to arrive today, but they got delayed. It's likely to come tomorrow (Wednesday), and we are praying they turn up negative. Because even if it's one positive, it could spell more trouble."

Things appear rocky for BTC with the winter season likely to never resume. Even if the eight results come out negative, BTC will have to send samples of all the horses at its premises—there are 648 now — to NRCE for testing thrice every 21 days. Only when all results come out negative in three continuous cycles can they resume racing. Even one glanders positive means repeating the cycle again.

A horse at the Bangalore Turf Club that was diagnosed with the incurable glanders disease was euthanised by the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department on Tuesday. DH FILE PHOTO

Vaibhav claims fifer for K'taka

BENGALURU, DHNS: Maharashtra's lower-order batter Arqam Sayed scored a fighting 68 to take his side past 250 after Karnataka pacer Vaibhav Sharma broke the side's backbone with a stunning spell in the opening session of their Elite Group C match of the Cooch Behar Trophy on Tuesday.

In a battle of the top two, second-placed Maharashtra ended the day on 258/8 with Vaibhav completing his fifer (5/64) by taking the big scalp of Arqam (68).

Brief scores: Maharashtra: 258/8 in 85 overs (Samkit Surana 31, Sai Paradeshi 48, Arqam Syed 68, Aneesh Joshi 41 n.o., Vaibhav Sharma 5-64, Akshath Prabhakar 2-33) vs Karnataka.

Aishwary shoots 3P gold with world record total

NEW DELHI/BHOPAL, PTI: World Championship silver medallist Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar (**in pic**) delivered a landmark performance at the 68th Shooting Nationals on Tuesday, firing a world record 470.5 to clinch gold in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions final at the Madhya Pradesh State Shooting Range.

Aishwary's score is 1.6 points more than the current world record.

In simultaneous shotgun action at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in Delhi, Gurjoat Singh produced a composed display to win the skeet men's gold with 55 hits, narrowly defeating nine-time national champion Mairaj Ahmad Khan, who had 54 hits.

Aishwary was clinical from the start, equalling his own national record of 597, which he had first achieved at the recently concluded World Cup Final in Doha, to finish on top of the qualification.

Navy shooter Niraj Kumar secured the silver with 463.7, and UP's Akhil Sheoran completed the podium with 451.8. Defending national champion Kiran Ankush Jadhav finished fourth.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ.ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿ
ಉತ್ತರ–ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ–581301
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ: DHO/NHM/BMW/UK/19/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12/12/2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಿವಿಧ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಘನ ತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಎರಡು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಂನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉಚಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಗಾಗಿ ವಿವರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ವಿಷಯ: (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15–12–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10:00 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ (2) ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19–12–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 05:30 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಹಾಕಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22–12–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 05:30 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (4) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–12–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10:00 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (5) ಒಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. 54,65,400/– (6) ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ 1,19,500/–
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಕಾರವಾರ, ಉಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/837/25-26 dt. 15.12.2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರೋಡ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ:08352–295353,
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್:dddwcdvijayapura@gamil.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಉನಿವಿ/ಮಮಅಇ/ಸ.ಅ.ಸಾ.ಖ/ಇ–ಪ್ರೋ.ಅ/2025–26
ದಿನಾಂಕ:15.12.2025
ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ 708 ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಶುದ್ಧ ಶೇಖರಣಾ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯದಡಿ (Clean Storage Provisins) ಪ್ರತಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.01.2026 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗಾಗಿ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಅನುಬಂಧ–1
ಟೆಂಡರ್: ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ 708 ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಶುದ್ಧ ಶೇಖರಣಾ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯದಡಿ (Clean Storage Provisins) ಪ್ರತಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸುವುದು. **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 70,80,000/–, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1,41,600/–.**
ಅನುಬಂಧ–2 (ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ)
1) **ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ:** 05.01.2026 ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ. DWCD/2025-26/IND0095
2) **ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಸಮಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಥಳ:** 03.01.2026 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
3) **ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳ/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 07.01.2026 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
4) **ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 12.01.2026 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
5) **ಈ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಕಛೇರಿ:** ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಿರೂಪಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/545/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಪಿಎ/2025–26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIVISION KOPPAL. Phone No:08539-222318.email:eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:TR:KW-1,3&4:2025-26:3217 Date:15-12-2025
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-1,3&4 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : 4059-80-051-0-60-132 CMIDP, 3054-(Non-Plan) SH Bridge Maintenance, 3054- (Non-Plan) MDR Bridge Maintenance, 2059-Department Building Maintenance (Non-Plan), 2216-Residential Quarters & Judicial Department Residential Quarters & 8443-Deposit Contribution/2025-26. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539 – 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 23 Works. Work Indent No: **29820, 29622, 29804, 29681, 28802, 28577, 29842, 29845, 29534**. Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **30-12-2025** Time 16.00, Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **31-12-2025** Time 16.30 & Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **03-01-2026** Time 16.00 & 29824, 29827, 29825, 29879, 29959, 29863, 29766, 29900, 20427/Call-3, 29215, 29216, 29915, 29909 & 28110 Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **23-12-2025** Time 16.00, Date and Time for Tenders **24-12-2025** Time 16.30. Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount Rs. **2.50** Lakhs & Rs. **450.00** Lakhs respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, Reservations & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other conditions tenderers can view in KPPP portal.
DIPR/Koppal/535/KSMCA/2025-26 Sd/- EE, PWD Division, Koppal

A peak into the uncapped trio who SET THE AUCTIONS AFIRE

At every IPL auction, along with superstars of world cricket, a few talented unheralded Indian players also set the tongues wagging for the bidding war they instigate. This time it was Prashant Veer, Kartik Sharma and Auqib Nabi Dar who had search engines on overdrive after laughing their way to the bank. **Sidney Kiran** gives a peak into the triumvirate.

PRASHANT VEER (CSK, Rs 14.2 cr)
Just 20 years old, the left-arm spinning all-rounder from Uttar Pradesh was first noticed in the UP T20 League before rising to prominence in the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy where he's the leading wicket-taker for his side with 9 scalps from seven games. He's also a powerful lower-order batter, having scored 112 runs at a fine strike rate of 169.69 this SMAT. CSK talent scouts were impressed with his display during trials, identifying him as a like-for-like replacement for their legendary player Ravindra Jadeja, who left them for Rajasthan Royals. It's very rare for CSK to splurge such an exorbitant price for an unknown commodity. Coming summer will give an indication if their judgement was right.

KARTIK SHARMA (CSK, Rs 14.20)
Kartik is just 19 years but the Rajasthani has already sent several pulses soaring with his big-hitting prowess. Some of his hits and his ability to clear the fence with brute force has earned admiration from the likes of cricketing nerd R Ashwin as well the flamboyant Kevin Pietersen. The teenager, in fact, has already been roped in by JSW, the same company that manages a clutch of top Indian athletes across spectrums. In 12 T20s so far, Kartik, who is designated finisher for Rajasthan, has scored 334 runs at a blistering strike rate of 162.92. Apparently, he's amongst the top-three six hitters list in the Ranji Trophy this season. Kartik trained with CSK last season and the scouts must have seen something special in him.

AUQIB NABI DAR (DC, Rs 8.40 crore)
Unlike Prashant and Kartik, the 29-year-old Auqib is a veteran on the domestic circuit and one of the most consistent performers for Jammu & Kashmir. Hailing from Baramullah, the fast bowler often struggled for a proper run-up owning to shortage of playing space and the rocky terrain during his formative years. But he made his way up the ladder through sheer grit, emerging as one of the finest pacers from that region. Having started off as a swing bowler who was largely potent only with the new-ball, Auqib was worked on his skills with the older one and is more rounded package now. In the ongoing SMAT, he has bagged 15 wickets in 7 games at a fine economy of 7.41. A decade of sweat and toil has finally borne fruit for the pacer who in the past often went unsold.

Australian all-rounder becomes most expensive foreign buy ever

Uncapped Indians land BIG 'GREEN' BUCKS

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Australian all-rounder Cameron Green lived up to his blue-chip stock status, emerging as the most expensive foreign purchase ever at the IPL mini-auction in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday, but the ones who headlined the bidding process on a highly calculated day of trading were nano caps Prashant Veer and Kartik Sharma.

Green, who had two impressive IPLs in 2023 and 2024 for Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bengaluru respectively before missing out last year due to a lower back injury, was picked up by Kolkata Knight Riders for a whopping Rs 25.20 crore, making him the third highest purchase ever behind Rishabh Pant (Rs 27 cr) and Shreyas Iyer (Rs 26.75 cr).

The 26-year-old Green's stock soaring through the roof was a given considering he is one of the hottest properties in world cricket, but what set the tongues wagging was Chennai Super Kings splurging Rs 14.20 cr each on relatively unknown commodities Prashant Veer and Kartik Sharma — a bold decision that was made by the seasoned think-tank at the table possibly based on the inputs from their talent scouts.

Sitting on the second highest purse of Rs 43.40 crore going into the auction, five-time champions CSK, who failed to qualify for the playoffs the last two seasons, didn't blink twice in going after Veer and Kartik following intense bidding wars with neighbours Sunrisers Hyderabad on both occasions.

Moment Veer's name came up for auction, Mumbai Indians and Lucknow Super Giants kickstarted the bidding to acquire the 20-year-old left-arm spinning all-rounder from Uttar Pradesh, who was first noticed in the UP T20 League before rising to prominence in the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy.

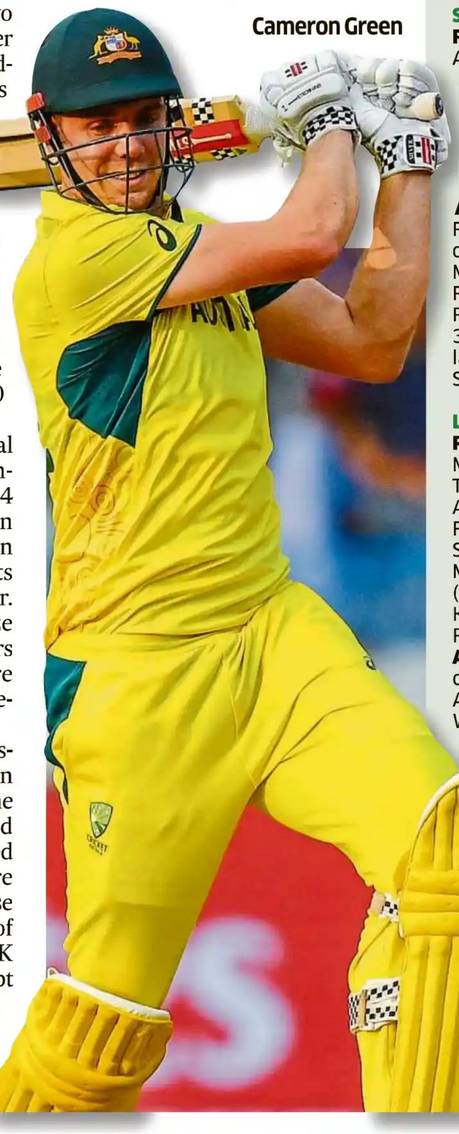
CSK, looking at him as a potential like-for-like replacement for Ravindra Jadeja, entered the fray at Rs 1.4 cr. LSG backed out at Rs 4.4 cr when Rajasthan Royals, generally known for picking such unheralded talents at moderate prices, joined the war. But they too backed off when his prize surged past the Rs 6 cr mark. Sunrisers jumped into the picture at Rs 6.8 crore and they went toe-to-toe with CSK before the latter signed him.

A similar pattern followed for Rajasthan's 19-year-old big-hitting sensation Kartik. MI and LSG started off with the bidding before the former exited and were joined by KKR. CSK then jumped in by offering Rs 3 cr, but KKR too were interested in signing the finisher whose lusty hitting has impressed the likes of Kevin Pietersen and R Ashwin. CSK and KKR, like in the case of Green, kept raising the paddle alternately until the Purple bench stopped at Rs 13 cr. Watching all the action unfold silently, Sunrisers made an entry at 13.20 cr, but CSK held strong until signing the teenager for Rs 14.20 cr.

Another uncapped Indian, a category which probably witnessed the most activity, who finally realised his long-time dream of being picked up by a franchise was Jammu and Kashmir fast bowler Auqib Nabi Dar. Having improved his death-bowling skills, which was his deterrent earlier, Auqib was strongly pursued by SRH and Delhi Capitals before the latter won the battle by roping him for Rs 8.4 cr.

Meanwhile, Green, who incidentally was listed in the batters' groups that allowed him the luxury of coming up in the opening set, set the tempo for a high-octane day. MI and RR kicked off the proceedings, KKR, who had the deepest pocket with Rs 64.30 cr, entered at Rs 2.80 cr. RR and KKR went on till CSK joined in at Rs 13.80. At that stage itself, it was clear the two would go all-out and they did so until CSK stopped raising the paddle when KKR offered Rs 25.20 cr.

KKR also roped in Sri Lanka's slinging fast bowler Matheesha Pathirana, dubbed 'Baby Malinga', for Rs 18 cr. Unlike in the case of Green, where they made their intention clear at the start itself, they were spectators for most of the bidding war, deciding to throw their hat in the ring only at Rs 16 crore. DC backed out at that stage, but LSG stayed on until pulling out of the race when KKR splurged Rs 18 cr.


Cameron Green

How the squads SHAPE UP

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS
Retentions: Ajinkya Rahane, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Anukul Roy, Harshit Rana, Manish Pandey, Ramandeep Singh, Rinku Singh, Rovman Powell, Sunil Narine, Umran Malik, Vaibhav Arora, Varun Chakaravarthy.
Auction buys: Cameron Green - Rs 25.20 cr, Matheesha Pathirana - Rs 18.00 cr, Mustafizur Rahman - Rs 9.20 cr, Tejasvi Singh - Rs 3.00 cr, Rachin Ravindra - Rs 2.00 cr, Finn Allen - Rs 2 cr, Tim Seifert - Rs 1.50 cr, Akash Deep - Rs 1.00 cr, Rahul Tripathi - Rs 75 lakh, Daksh Kamra - Rs 30.00 lakh, Sarthak Ranjan - Rs 30.00 lakh, Prashant Solanki - Rs 30 lakh, Kartik Tyagi - Rs 30 lakh.

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS
Retentions: Anshul Kamboj, Gurjapneet Singh, Jamie Overton, MS Dhoni, Mukesh Choudhary, Nathan Ellis, Noor Ahmad, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Sanju Samson (traded), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shivam Dube, Shreyas Gopal, Syed Khaleel Ahmed, Ayush Mhatre, Dewald Brevis, Urvil Patel.
Auction buys: Prashant Veer - Rs 14.20 cr, Kartik Sharma - Rs 14.20 cr, Rahul Chahar - Rs 5.20 cr, Matt Henry - Rs 2.00 cr, Akeal Hosein - Rs 2.00 cr, Matthew Short - Rs 1.50 cr, Zak Foulkes - Rs 75.00 lakh, Sarfaraz Khan - Rs 75.00 lakh, Aman Khan - Rs 40.00 lakh

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD
Retentions: Abhishek Sharma, Aniket Verma, Brydon Carse, Eshan Malinga, Harsh Dubey, Harshal Patel, Heinrich Klaasen, Ishan Kishan, Jaydev Unadkat, Kamindu Mendis, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Pat Cummins, Smaran Ravichandaran, Travis Head, Zeeshan Ansari
Auction buys: Liam Livingstone - Rs 13.00 cr, Jack Edwards - Rs 3.00 cr, Salil Arora - Rs 1.50 cr, Shivam Mavi - Rs 75 lakh, Krains Fuletra - Rs 30.00 lakh, Praful Hinge - Rs 30.00 lakh, Amit Kumar - Rs 30.00 lakh, Onkar Tarmale - Rs 30.00 lakh, Saikb Hussain - Rs 30.00 lakh, Shivang Kumar - Rs 30 lakh.

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Retentions: Abdul Samad, Aiden Markram, Akash Singh, Arjun Tendulkar (traded), Arshin Kulkarni, Avesh Khan, Ayush Badoni, Digvesh Rathi, Himmat Singh, Manimaran Siddharth, Matthew Breetzke, Mayank Yadav, Mohammed Shami (traded), Mitchell Marsh, Mohsin Khan, Nicholas Pooran, Prince Yadav, Rishabh Pant, Shahbaz Ahmed
Auction buys: Josh Inglis - Rs 8.60 cr, Mukul Choudhary - Rs 2.60 cr, Akshat Raghuwanshi - Rs 2.20 cr, Wanindu Hasaranga - Rs 2 cr, Anrich Nortje - Rs 2 cr, Naman Tiwari - Rs 1 cr.

DELHI CAPITLS
Retentions: Abhishek Porel, Ajay Mandal, Ashutosh Sharma, Axar Patel, Dushmantha Chameera, Karun Nair, KL Rahul, Kuldeep Yadav, Madhav Tiwari, Mitchell Starc, Mukesh Kumar, Nitish Rana (traded), Sameer Rizvi, T Natarajan, Tripurana Vijay, Tristan Stubbs, Vipraj Nigam.
Auction buys: Auqib Nabi Dar - Rs 8.4 cr, Pathum Nissanka - Rs 4.00 cr, Kyle Jamieson - Rs 2.00 cr, Lungi Ngidi - Rs 2.00 cr, Ben Duckett - Rs 2.00 cr, David Miller - Rs 2.00 cr, Prithvi Shaw - Rs 75.00 lakh, Sahil Parakh - Rs 30.00 lakh.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS
Retentions: Dhruv Jurel, Donovan Ferreira (traded), Jofra Archer, Kwena Maphaka, Lhuan-Dre Pretorious, Nandre Burger, Ravindra Jadeja (traded), Riyan Parag, Sam Curran (traded), Sandeep Sharma, Shimron Hetmyer, Shubham Dubey, Tushar Deshpande, Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Yashaswi Jaiswal, Yudhvir Charak
Auction buys: Ravi Bishnoi - Rs 7.2 cr, Adam Milne - Rs 2.40 cr, Ravi Singh - Rs 95.00 lakh, Sushant Mishra - Rs 90 lakh, Kuldeep Sen - Rs 75.00 lakh, Brijesh Sharma - Rs 30.00 lakh, Aman Rao Perala - Rs 30.00 lakh, Vignesh Puthur - Rs 30 lakh, Yash Raj Punja - Rs 30 lakh.

GUJARAT TITANS
Retentions: Anuj Rawat, Glenn Phillips, Gurnoor Singh Brar, Ishant Sharma, Jayant Yadav, Jos Buttler, Kagiso Rabada, Kumar Kushagra, Manav Suthar, Mohammad Siraj, Mohd. Arshad Khan, Nishant Sindhu, Prasidh Krishna, R. Sai Kishore, Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan, Sai Sudharsan, Shahrukh Khan, Shubman Gill, Washington Sundar.
Auction buys: Jason Holder - Rs 7.00 cr, Tom Banton - Rs 2.00 cr, Ashok Sharma - Rs 90.00 lakh, Luke Wood - Rs 75.00 lakh, Prithviraj Yarra - Rs 30 lakh.

PUNJAB KINGS
Retentions: Arshdeep Singh, Azmatullah Omarzai, Harnoor Pannu, Harpreet Brar, Lockie Ferguson, Marco Jansen, Marcus Stoinis, Mitch Owen, Musheer Khan, Nehal Wadhera, Prabhsimran Singh, Priyansh Arya, Pyla Avinash, Shashank Singh, Shreyas Iyer, Suryansh Shedge, Vishnu Vinod, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Xavier Bartlett, Yash Thakur, Yuzvendra Chahal
Auction buys: Ben Dwarshuis - Rs 4.40 cr, Cooper Connolly - Rs 3.00 cr, Vishal Nishad - Rs 30.00 lakh, Pravin Dubey - Rs 30.00 lakh.

MUMBAI INDIANS
Retentions: Allah Ghazanfar, Ashwani Kumar, Corbin Bosch, Deepak Chahar, Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, Mayank Markande (traded), Mitchell Santner, Naman Dhir, Raghu Sharma, Raj Angad Bawa, Robin Minz, Rohit Sharma, Ryan Rickelton, Shardul Thakur (traded), Sherfane Rutherford (traded), Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Verma, Trent Boult, Will Jacks
Auction buys: Quinton de Kock - Rs 1 cr, Mayank Rawat - Rs 30.00 lakh, Atharva Ankolekar - Rs 30.00 lakh, Mohammad Izhar - Rs 30.00 lakh, Danish Malewar - Rs 30.00 lakh.

Venkatesh Iyer was RCB's most prized asset in the IPL mini-auction in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday. AFP

Relaxed RCB walk away a happy bunch

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

After years of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL auction being termed their Achilles Heel, there was a sense of excitement among the representatives during the mini-auction in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

The camp seemed to have enjoyed the day without much pressure with the luxury of a settled core, having retained the talent (17 players) that helped them to go all the way to their first-ever IPL crown.

The defending champions, in the hope of strengthening their squad, had 16.4 crore left in the bank, with eight slots and two overseas options to fill.

RCB's eyes lit up when a certain Venkatesh Iyer went under the hammer, a player who they went chasing till Rs 23.50 crore last time around, eventually losing him to Kolkata Knight Riders at Rs 23.75 crore.

While the tussle was of smaller proportions this time, it was KKR again who showed interest in Iyer, with both teams flashing their paddles after some early attention from Lucknow Super Giants and Gujarat Titans. KKR eventually pulled out of the race against RCB, who signed Iyer for Rs 7 crore.

Though the last IPL season was slightly muted for Iyer, he remains a valuable and versatile option, especially after improving his batting against spin. However, it will be interesting to see if the management gives him a middle-order role and play an extra overseas seamer instead of all-rounder Romario Shepherd.

After picking their most prized asset, RCB went about their priority in fast bowling depth and roped in New Zealand fast bowler Jacob Duffy at a base price of Rs 2 crore.

The Challengers, then, expectedly went big on a left-arm quick in Mangesh Yadav as a back-up for Yash Dayal, signing the Madhya Pradesh pacer for Rs 5.2 crore on a day when the Indian uncapped players were in high demand.

While one of their uncapped picks stole the auction limelight, RCB also got in Satvik Deswal (Rs 30 lakh), Jordan Cox (Rs 75 lakh), Vicky Ostwal (Rs 30 lakh), Kanishk Chouhan (Rs 30 lakh), Vihaan Malhotra (Rs 30 lakh) to wrap up the 25-member squad.

A not-so experienced IPL captain who has gained a lot of trust from his faithful, a coach who has one of the best CVs going around, a Director of Cricket known to produce results and a flexible squad - Royal Challengers Bengaluru seem to have found their formula for success.

Whether they live up to the squad's strength on paper, only time will tell. For now, they will walk away from Abu Dhabi happy.

The squad (Retentions): Abhinandan Singh, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Devdutt Padikkal, Jacob Bethell, Jitesh Sharma, Josh Hazlewood, Krunal Pandya, Nuwan Thushara, Phil Salt, Rajat Patidar, Rasikh Dar, Romario Shepherd, Suyash Sharma, Swapnil Singh, Tim David, Virat Kohli, Yash Dayal
Players bought: Venkatesh Iyer (Rs 7 crore), Jacob Duffy (Rs 2 crore), Satwik Deswal (Rs 30 lakh), Mangesh Yadav (5.2 crore), Jordan Cox (75 lakh), Vicky Ostwal (Rs 30 lakh), Kanishk Chouhan (Rs 30 lakh), Vihaan Malhotra (Rs 30 lakh).

Lean day

Karnataka failed to have a fruitful Syed Mushtaq Ali campaign, bowing out of after winning just two games out of seven and it seemed to have an effect on the prospects of state cricketers, with just Pravin Dubey (PBKS, Rs 30 lakh) & Yash Raj Punja (RR, Rs 30 lakh) signing a contract from the auction pool.

> We've got a settled team and most people can see the structure of our side because we have retained the core of it. This auction was about developing the squad, strengthening our depth and adding some injury cover. To get Venky and Duffy for the price we got happy. Duffy is a bargain.
>
> **MO BOBAT**
> Director of Cricket, RCB

Mangesh Yadav. X

IPL window set between March 26 and May 31

BENGALURU, DHNS

The 19th edition of the Indian Premier League is set to be held in the window between March 26 and May 31 though doubts remain over the venue for the opening match as there is no clarity yet from the Karnataka state government on the M Chinnaswamy stadium.

According to the convention, the defending champions get to host the opening and final matches and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, who won their maiden IPL title last year in Ahmedabad, should have been given the hosting rights for the tournament opener.

However, RCB's home ground has been banned from hosting any big match, including senior domestic fixtures, following the tragic incidents of June 4 when 11 RCB fans lost their lives in a stampede during franchise's victory celebrations.

Though the the venue has received conditional clearance from the state government following interactions between the new regime at the KSCA under president Venkatesh Prasad and the chief minister and his deputy, the ground needs to meet certain safety and security standards according to justice Michael D'Cunha panel that probed the death of fans in the stampede.

"We have been in touch with all the concerned government bodies, and we have promised to do what is doable in the timeframe we have," Prasad told *DH*. "There are a many recommendations from the committee (D'Cunha panel) and we will take them phase by phase."

Kalinga's brace files IT victory

BENGALURU, DHNS

Prashanth Kalinga scored a brace as Income Tax won 2-1 against Real Chikkamagaluru in the latest round of matches of the BDFA A Division League.

Prashanth gave lead to Income Tax as he scored in the 23rd minute to open the scoring in first of the two matches on the day.

However, Chikkamagaluru restored parity before half time as Anthony Tayan Wilson equalised in the injury time to keep the match evenly poised. The leading goal came in the 62nd minute as Prashant scored his second. Income Tax held on to their lead for the remaining minutes.

In the other match on the day, BTM FC won 3-1 against Jawahar Union FC with Niranjan Babu (12th), Rohan Jonatahan (48th) and Subhesh K (60th) scoring a goal each for the winning side.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Nitesh Sharma scored the sole goal for Jawahar two minutes from the half-hour mark.

Results: Income Tax: 2 (Prashanth Kalinga 23rd, 62nd) bt Real Chikkamagaluru: 1 (Anthony Tayan Wilson 45+2nd); BTM FC: 3 (Niranjan Babu 12th, R Jonathan 48th, Subhesh K 60th) bt Jawahar Union FC: 1 (Nitesh Sharma 28th).

Kumble, Srinath, Joshi in KSCA's advisory panel

BENGALURU, DHNS: In line with the convention practiced by the BCCI, the Karnataka State Cricket Association has constituted a five-member Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) which includes legendary cricketers Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath.

In its first meeting, the newly-elected Managing Committee took the decision to form the panel that also has former India players Sunil Joshi, Vijay Bharadwaj and Jayshree Doraiswamy.

The committee recommended changes to the various State selection panels for the remainder of the season. Former Karnataka batter Amit Verma has been named the chairman of Senior and U-23 panels with S Prakash, Tejpal Kothari and Sunil Raju as other three members. The Junior teams — U-19, 16 and 14 — will be selected by a single panel, headed by former Karnataka batter GK Anil Kumar. C Raghavendra, G N Umesh and D S Ananth complete the panel.

Keeping in mind the short duration of the ongoing season, the selection panels have been divided into just two groups instead of three.

There is also a change in the U-23 coaching panel with Ganesh Satish and Deepak Chougule replacing Somashekar Siruguppi and S R Deepu.

"The women's selection committee is currently under review, and necessary decisions in this regard will be taken shortly," said KSCA spokesperson Vinay Mruthyunjaya.

Ganesh Satish (left) is the new Karnataka under-23 team's coach, along with Deepak Chougule, while Amit Varma (right) has been named the Senior and U-23 teams' selection panel chairman. DH FILE PHOTO

Advisory Committee: Anil Kumble, Javagal Srinath, Sunil Joshi, Vijay Bharadwaj, Jayshree Doraiswamy.
Senior & U-23 men's selection committee: Amit Verma (Chairman), S Prakash, Tejpal Kothari, Sunil Raju.
Junior Men (U-19, 16 & 14): G K Anil Kumar (Chairman), C Raghavendra, G N Umesh, D S Ananth.
Coaches (U-23 men): Ganesh Satish and Deepak Chougule.

Pyaar Aisa Pehle Jaisa
SHILAPRAVANG SPECIAL
SHILAPRAVANG
SPECIAL
Its Saptadhatuposhan awakens your senses, Energises your actions
Caution: To be taken under medical supervision
Shree Dhootapapeshwar Limited | Authentic, Standardised, Safe Ayurved Medicines
For Health & Trade Enquiries Tollfree: 1800 22 9874 | Visit us at www.sdlindia.com/consumerayurved

Printed and published by B A Ravi on behalf of The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, at The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, Plot nos. 7-12, Kumbalgodu Industrial Area, Bengaluru - 560 074. Executive Editor: K V Subramanya (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act). Editorial Office: 75, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. E-mail: editor@deccanherald.co.in. Phone: 080-45557333, Editorial: 080-45557279/080-45557280, Circ: 080-45557204, Advt: 080-45557163/080-45557164. Also printed at Hubballi-Dharwad, Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Davangere, Mysuru and Hosapete. © All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. RNI No 3608/57. Registered, Regn. No: KRNA/BGE/1027/2023-2025, posted at Bangalore PSO, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560 026. Website: www.printersmysore.com